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East African death toll rises to 165

We will find the bombers, says Albright

FROM DAVID ORR IN NAIROBI AND DAMIAN WHITEWORTH IN WASHINGTON

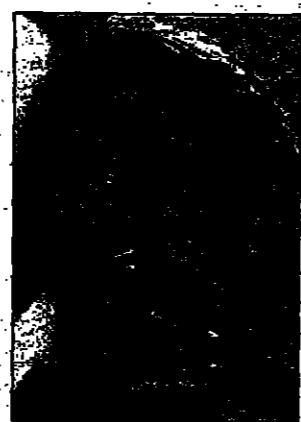
THE American Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, yesterday vowed that those responsible for the East African embassy bombings would be brought to justice no matter how long it took.

"The memory of the United States is very long and our reach is very far," Ms Albright said. "People should not forget there is no statute of limitations on any of these crimes, and the United States will continue to pursue until there is justice."

Her warning came as rescue teams with sniffer dogs and heavy lifting equipment toiled to dig bodies out of debris left by the blast in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. By last night, the number of deaths had risen to 133 and nearly 5,000 injured. Some 340 victims are still in hospital, 25 of them in a critical condition.

In the Tanzanian city of Dar es Salaam, the toll was ten dead and 70 injured. The explosions at American embassy compounds in Kenya and Tanzania happened within minutes of each other on Friday. Sandy Berger, National Security Adviser, said that investigators were examining claims of responsibility from hitherto unknown groups, including one calling itself the Islamic Army for the Liberation of Holy Places.

There are various groups that we haven't heard of before.



Albright: "Memory of the United States is very long"

claiming responsibility. We take all those seriously and will pursue all those leads," Mr Berger said. There were now several hundred investigators in East Africa, including FBI teams. "This was unadmitted evil. We will pursue every lead until we have tracked these people down."

Ms Albright refused to be drawn on speculation that the chief suspect in the case was the exiled millionaire Saudi dissident Osama bin Laden, who is now based in Afghanistan and has been on television calling for a holy war against the United States. "Clearly he is someone that has been involved in sponsoring terrorism and has made speeches which have basically been very anti-American, but I don't want to comment in any way on this particular investigation."

There was criticism, however, of previous failures to find

terrorists. Arlen Specter, a senior Republican senator, said that the US Government had not been assiduous enough in hunting the perpetrators of the 1996 truck bomb which killed 19 US troops in Saudi Arabia.

But Ms Albright countered in *The New York Times* that that investigation was still going on. "It is a very complicated one. Global terrorism is a huge threat and we discuss it at all levels."

Even as the search for survivors continued yesterday, debate ignited in Washington over how it was possible for the embassies to be so vulnerable to attack. In a clear reference to the battles between her department and Congress, Ms Albright said that there was simply not enough money available to make all American diplomatic missions as secure as they could be.

"We've no idea how many bodies are still in there," said Dr Isaac Ashkenazi of the Israeli rescue squad, indicating the collapsed office block near the Nairobi embassy. "We had one injured woman earlier shouting to us 'Please get me out, but we don't know if she's still alive.'"

A mother and child emerged from the top of the office block behind the embassy shocked but otherwise unscathed yesterday.

Three Arabs filmed the embassy four days before the attack, according to a former Kenyan policeman.

Bomb aftermath, page 11
Leading article, page 19



An escaped mother mink with her young yesterday. Police have warned local residents that the area is facing a wildlife catastrophe

Mink hunted after activists' own goal

BY ADRIAN LEE

THE great mink hunt was under way yesterday after animal rights extremists released thousands of the vicious killers from a fur farm. Police warned people living within five miles of Ringwood, Hampshire to keep pets indoors and said that the area was facing a wildlife disaster.

It was estimated last night that more than 3,000 mink — one of the animal kingdom's most ferocious predators — were still loose. As households reported the first attacks on cats and dogs, farmers were organising mink hunts

and a team of trappers was trying to contain the carnage.

Experts said birds and small farm animals were also at risk. A kestrel and an owl at a bird sanctuary near Crow Hill Farm have already fallen victim.

The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the release of the mink, which happened in the early hours of Saturday morning. Cages containing about 6,000 mink were opened and holes cut in perimeter fences.

The RSPCA condemned the release and animal welfare groups said the ALF operation was a damaging own goal

because many of the mink which were bred in captivity for export to the United States, Scandinavia and Russia, would die of starvation.

It is feared that thousands of young pheasants, released a week ago for the shooting season, will become easy prey. Although the animals are dangerous to humans only when cornered, they will attack pets.

Ringwood's small police station was inundated with calls about the mink. One was found in a rabbit hutch, another was cornered in a garage and a chihuahua dog was attacked. About 300 male

stud mink, which measure 28 inches long from nose to tail, were among those on the loose. They were said to be the most dangerous and could easily slip through cat flaps.

PC Rob Ellis, a wildlife liaison officer for Hampshire police said: "We have told local farmers to shoot the mink. Although bred in captivity, they will adapt quickly and attack anything. They are not shy of humans and could be dangerous if cornered. They are very aggressive animals and no-one should try to catch them. It is going to be a

Continued on Page 3, col 4



Training for police chiefs

JACK STRAW has ordered a complete change in the way top police officers are selected and trained in an effort to raise standards of leadership in the forces.

The Home Secretary is alarmed at the poverty of talent available to fill some chief constable vacancies and that the next generation of senior officers lacks management skills.

Straw's search, page 2

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Bathers injured by plague of razor-sharp molluscs

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

HOLIDAY beaches were evacuated yesterday when more than 130 bathers emerged bleeding from the sea after being cut in the feet and legs by hidden "razor shells".

Roads leading to Paignton and Preston beaches in Torbay, Devon, were shut as coastguard officials, police and deckchair attendants were drafted in to tend minor injuries. Serious cases were taken to hospital in Torquay for stitches. At one point an air ambulance landed on the sands.

Brian Pearce, Torbay council's beach manager, said staff will today use loudspeakers and erect warning signs telling bathers to stay out of the water until the molluscs have gone.

The cause of the drama was unclear. Razor shells, or "razor clams" as they are also known, are a type of scallop that have long inhabited Brit-



A razor shell, like those plaguing Torbay bathers

ish beaches. Razor shells are long, thin creatures resembling cut-throat razors that grow to about eight inches in length. They have powerful feet that help them to bury in deep sands in seconds.

Yesterday was the hottest day this year in Torbay and beaches were packed with thousands of families enjoying temperatures in the mid-80s. That coincided with an unusually low spring tide, allowing people to wade out much further than usual.

The injuries happened as people ran into the sea and cut their feet. Many of the victims

of the shellfish were children. Dave Burrell, owner of Aqualand Marina in Torquay, said: "These things bury themselves in the sand and don't normally harm anyone but the tides mean that they are on the surface."

Adrian Sanders, MP for Torbay, said: "It was like a scene from Jaws as the police and other officers cleared the sea of people."

Chris Coles, a senior ambulance officer, said: "We've treated 130 people already, many of them children."

Forecast, page 22

Revived England on Test knife edge

BY MICHAEL HENDERSON

ENGLAND'S cricketers, who have not won a major Test series for 11 years, and not won in England for 13 summers, stand on the threshold of a famous victory at Headingley today. When play ended last night they needed to take two more wickets, and South Africa, chasing 219, required 34 more runs.

Spectators will be admitted free of charge today, hoping to see Darren Gough of Yorkshire add to the five wickets he took yesterday, three of them as South Africa collapsed to 27 their last six wickets for 34. A dramatic day ended when the umpires overruled Hansie Cronje, the South Africa captain, who wanted to claim the extra half hour that playing conditions permit.

The last time England won a series of more than three Tests was the winter of 1986-87 when Mike Gatting's team won 2-1 in Australia. The last

time they won at home was in 1985, when David Gower led them to a 3-1 victory, also over Australia.

Since then they have drawn with South Africa, and held West Indies twice, but they have lost three times to Pakistan and Australia. Abroad, they have lost everywhere except New Zealand, most recently in the Caribbean earlier this year, after which Michael Atherton resigned as captain.

At once stage yesterday it seemed that England might win before tea, before Jonty Rhodes and Brian McMillan put on 117 for the sixth wicket. For the South Africans, who won the second Test at Lord's, and came within one ball of taking the third, at Old Trafford, the outcome of this hard-fought series is no less important.

Test cliffhanger, page 23
Simon Barnes, page 29

Doubts raised over anti-obesity fat substitute

BY NICOL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

A FAT substitute hailed as a cure for the epidemic of obesity in the Western world has shown worrying side-effects when fed to volunteers in a trial in Cambridge.

Sucrose polyester, a huge success in the United States tastes just like fat but passes straight through the body without being digested, reducing the fatty effect. Some scientists believed that its use might eventually allow the sale of "fat-free" biscuits, pies, dairy products, sausages, beefburgers and even chocolate.

Procter & Gamble, the Cincinnati-

based multinational, has invested \$300 million in developing a sucrose polyester called olestra, which it sees as the basis for the next generation of healthy foods. Its tests, it says, show that olestra is perfectly safe.

But the Cambridge trial, involving 76 volunteers who ate sucrose polyester as part of their diet for three months, showed that it lowered levels of the protective factors vitamin B and carotenoids in the body and caused significant bowel upsets in almost a third of the volunteers.

"We were taken aback," said Dr John Hunter, consultant in the Department of Gastroenterology at Addenbrooke's Hospital, who carried out the study

with Dr Sean Kelly, now at York District General Hospital, and others. "We started out thinking it would be completely harmless."

The team concludes in the *British Journal of Nutrition* that the "important deleterious effects of sucrose polyester need to be carefully examined before this product is made available for widespread consumption in a broad range of foods".

Procter & Gamble has spent 30 years developing olestra. In June the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) completed a review of olestra, which the company markets under the brand name Oleo, and said that there was "reasonable certainty of no harm"

from eating it, although so far it is only licensed for use in salty snacks such as potato crisp.

Research by Procter & Gamble had shown that olestra tends to prevent the absorption of vitamins in food and it is a condition of FDA approval that extra vitamins must be added to the crisps to make up for that effect. But Dr Hunter says that the Cambridge trial also documented "profound falls" in the levels of six carotenoids. These are naturally-occurring substances in fruit and vegetables which are believed to protect against cancer.

"There are 600 carotenoids known, but nobody knows which ones are

Continued on Page 2, col 4

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Gaddafi assassination plot is a fantasy, says Cook

Jill Sherman and Michael Evans report on how Foreign Secretary sought to clear his predecessor

ROBIN COOK yesterday dismissed allegations of an MI6 plot to assassinate Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, as "pure fantasy" after consulting with the head of the Secret Intelligence Service.

and I am absolutely satisfied that the previous Foreign Secretary [Malcolm Rifkind] did not authorise any such assassination attempt," said Mr Cook, on BBC's *Breakfast* with Frost. "I am perfectly satisfied that SIS never put forward any such proposal for an assassination attempt. Nor have I seen anything in the 15 months I've been in the job which would suggest that SIS had any interest, any role or any experience over recent decades, of any such escapade. It is pure fantasy," said Mr Cook. "There

was no government-inspired plan to assassinate Gaddafi. There was no SIS proposal to do it, and I'm fairly clear there has never been any SIS involvement."

However, senior Labour backbenchers and Mr Shayler's lawyer pointed out that his comments did not appear to rule out an unauthorised attempt by junior members of MI6. "We have for a long time been concerned that the lower levels of the security services are outside effective control," said one MP. Tam Dalyell, Labour MP,

also called for members of the all-party Intelligence and Security Committee to be recalled from their holidays to investigate the alleged plot. John Wadham, Mr Shayler's lawyer and director of Liberty, seized on Mr Cook's apparent uncertainty. "I notice that Robin Cook only said he was 'fairly' sure that MI6 was not involved in the Gaddafi affair," he said.

Mr Cook's remarks came as Annie Machon, girlfriend of David Shayler, the former MI5 officer behind the claims, went on air to insist his allegations were true. "I think they [the Government] are so touchy because they realise what he's saying is true," she said on *Breakfast with Frost*. "He headed up the Libyan section in MI5 for over two years, so he was very well informed about all matters relating to Libya."

The Foreign Office would not elaborate on what inquiries Mr Cook had made before rejecting the assassination plot allegations, but it is believed he discussed the claims with Sir David Spedding, chief of the Secret Intelligence Service, who took over in September 1994.

Straw seeks better officers at the top

Stewart Tendler on the drive to raise standards in Britain's police forces

A REVOLUTION in the way senior police officers are selected and trained has been ordered by Jack Straw in a drive to raise standards of leadership.

The Home Secretary is alarmed at the poverty of talent available to fill some vacancies for chief constable posts. He is also concerned that the next generation lacks the management and financial skills to push through an efficiency drive which he regards as vital.

Under the reforms, chief constables would for the first time be required to attend executive courses, alongside senior managers from business and top civil servants. The Home Office is also questioning whether the police rely too much on graduates

entrants and accelerated promotion schemes. The Home Office and inspectors of constabulary would launch a system to match officers to different types of forces. Authorities looking at candidates would be given a grading system showing whether officers were suitable for the demands of a rural or city force.

The changes could be operating within two years of the launch next month of a working party of Home Office officials, representatives of police authorities and chief constables. For the first time in more than a decade, the whole machinery of picking and training the most powerful operational police officers in the country will be put under the microscope. Reforms

would cover about 270 officers with the ranks of assistant chief constable, deputy and chief constable. Current salaries range from £59,865 as an assistant chief constable to £106,182 as "super chiefs" of the Greater Manchester and West Midlands forces.

In the past few months, the Home Secretary has warned chief constables about wide variations between similar forces in crime-fighting and efficiency. He is understood to believe that performance does not only depend on money but also the quality of leadership.

Mr Straw is also understood to want better management of the pool of potential senior officers. In the past year, nearly half of the 43 forces in England and Wales have changed their bosses and

a number have been forced to re-advertise. The National Crime Squad began operations in April with only one of the three top field commanders it needed.

He is concerned that too many bright assistant chief constables are taking jobs in rural forces when their talents are needed in the bigger cities and would like to see strong management teams created in forces so that a chief constable had a number of officers with special talents he could draw on.

CHIEF CONSTABLES FACING CRITICISM



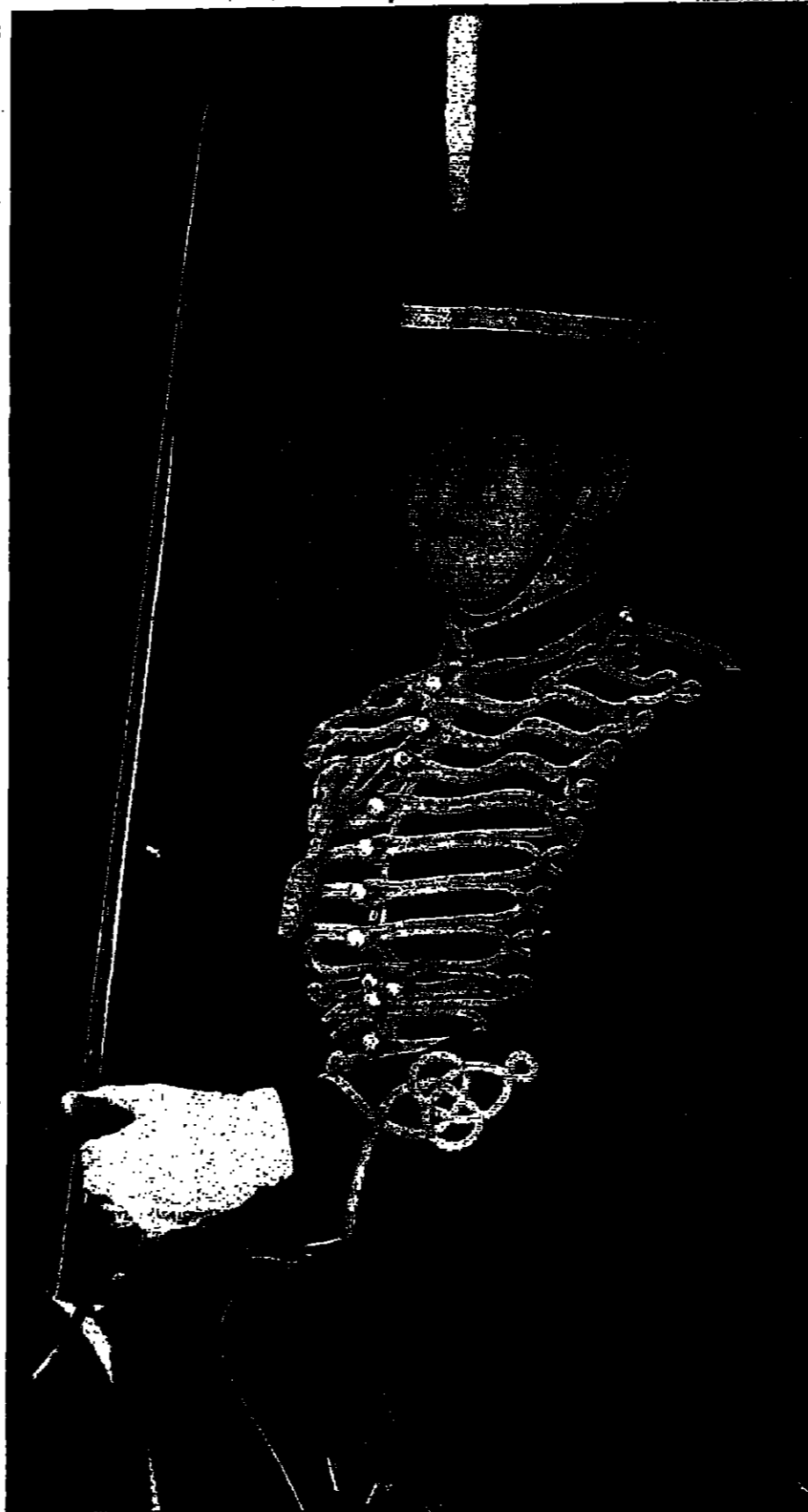
In the spotlight: chief constables Peter Bensley, Francis Wilkinson and Dr Ian Oliver

Four chief constables have found themselves in the spotlight over the handling of their forces in the past year. Francis Wilkinson, Chief Constable of Gwent, was suspended last year following misconduct allegations which involved a speeding ticket issued to a prominent councillor and the awarding of contracts. Mr Wilkinson, 51, now faces an investigation by an independent disciplinary tribunal.

Peter Bensley, Chief Constable of Lincolnshire, came under attack for his force's treatment of Inspector Denis Fleming. In February an industrial tribunal found that

his force had victimised her after she made allegations of sexual discrimination. It said Mr Bensley had taken a deplorable attitude towards equal opportunities.

David Burke, 59, Chief Constable of North Yorkshire, was forced to resign in January after controversy over his handling of a sexual harassment case. Dr Ian Oliver, Chief Constable of Grampian, resigned in April after a row over his force's handling of the murder of a child by a paedophile. Donald Dewar, the Secretary of State for Scotland, publicly called on Dr Oliver, 58, to quit.



A gunner of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, which is providing the Queen's Horse Guard while the Household Cavalry is on camp, on sentry duty in Whitehall yesterday. This is the first time that female soldiers have been part of the Guard

LVF 'must show it is dedicated to peace'

By Audrey Magee, Ireland Correspondent

THE Government has ruled out the early release of Loyalist Volunteer Force prisoners until the terrorists demonstrate a genuine commitment to peace, a Northern Ireland Office source indicated yesterday.

The ban on the early release remains in place despite a statement by the group, released on Saturday night, declaring "an absolute, utter finish" to its campaign of violence.

Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, welcomed the statement but said it was important that the LVF maintained a "complete and unequivocal ceasefire".

The LVF is the only one of Northern Ireland's three loyalist terrorist groups released early under the prisoner release legislation passed through the House of Commons last month.

The LVF is viewed as dangerous and unpredictable. It is blamed for killing 16 people in the past two years, nine of them in revenge for the murder of LVF leader Billy Wright in the Maze prison.

The terrorists were also responsible for much of the violence at Drumcree in July. The LVF set up an encampment beside the church in support of Orangemen banned from marching down nationalist Garvaghy Road.

Some 30 LVF prisoners remain in the Maze, including the four men serving life sentences for the 1993 Halloween massacre when gunmen opened fire on a bar in Greysteel, Co Londonderry, killing eight people.

The four — Torrens Knight, Stephen Irwin, Jeffrey Deeny and Brian McNeill — had previously been members of the Ulster Defence Association, one of the two loyalist groups entitled to early release.

Ken Maginnis, the Ulster Unionist Party security spokesman, welcomed the LVF statement.

Minister to challenge system of consultants' pay

By Jill Sherman, Chief Political Correspondent

ALAN MILBURN, the health minister, will today announce the first stages of major changes to the pay of senior consultants to end the "old boys' network" of awarding bonuses.

Under the changes, which are bound to be opposed by consultants, the current system of distributing bonuses, known as merit awards, worth up to £50,000 a year is to be replaced by a body with a much greater proportion of patient representatives. The new body, which will recommend consultants for bonuses will also be able to reduce or withdraw merit awards.

The new scheme was dismissed as unworkable by the Tories last night. "How on earth can a patient compare consultants when they may only have been treated by one," said Alan Duncan, a Conservative health spokesman. "This looks like a completely unworkable scheme."

But ministers are concerned that annually and the merit payment could be withdrawn if the doctor has had a criminal conviction, has been disciplined, has been reported to the General Medical Council or has failed to impress the new Commission for Health Improvement.

Ministerial sources yesterday disclosed that the composition of the existing Advisory Committee on Distinction Awards is to be changed under the new plans to ensure that there is less chance for doctors to favour their colleagues.

At present 25 members of the 33-strong committee are consultants, mainly from the royal medical colleges. Under the plan, the membership will drop to 14 of whom five will be consultants. The remainder will be NHS employees and representatives from patient organisations, and there will be an independent lay chairman.

Today's announcement will be the first stage of a wider shake-up of top doctors' pay.

Leading article, page 19

Fat testing

important" he says. "We monitored six of them, including beta-carotene, lycopene and lutein. Studies have shown that people with low levels of beta-carotene are more likely to develop cancer later in life."

GM potatoes damage rats' immune systems

GENETICALLY modified potatoes can damage the immune systems of rats, a research project in Aberdeen has discovered.

GM potatoes damage rats' immune systems

Professor Arpad Pusztai, of the Roswell Research Institute, will say on tonight's *World in Action* on ITV that he will not eat genetically modified crops until they have undergone at least as exhaustive a trial.

"If I had the choice I would certainly not eat it until I see at least comparable experimental evidence," he says.

The trials have been carried out on potatoes carrying genes from both the snowdrop and the jackbean. The genes are responsible for producing proteins called lectins, which protect the parent plants from aphid and nematode attack. Potatoes resistant to these pests could be valuable.

But lectins are known to damage immune-system cells, so the feeding experiments with rats were designed to see if the damage occurred when the lectins were present in the potatoes. In the case of the snowdrop lectin, no such effect was observed, but the jackbean lectin did suppress the immune system.

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Predator hunts alone kills for
Imports find home from home
Statistics study is waist of time
Palace welcome

Predator that hunts alone and kills for kicks

Dominic Kennedy on the ferocious animal which lines its den with fur and feathers from its victims

THE mink, infamous for its nocturnal raids when entire henhouses are left for dead, often kills for kicks rather than for food. *Mustela vison*, a native of north America, is an efficient killer which bites its victims at the base of the skull or nape of the neck.

It will easily roam 2,500 acres energetically seeking prey such as rabbits, squirrels, nesting wildfowl, large birds, mice, rats, frogs and fish. The mink grows to 30in long, has a narrow body, short legs and a long tail.

It will fearlessly attack animals larger than itself. Antisocial habits include spraying

enemies with a secretion from its anal scent glands with a smell as obnoxious as that emitted by its relative the skunk.

American mink were imported to Britain in 1920 for the fur trade and immediately began competing so well with hapless native mammals that a wildlife census found there were 110,000 American mink at large, outnumbering the traditional resident, the otter, by 15 to one.

Most vulnerable are water voles, which have almost vanished since the American mink appeared. Fish and

ducking populations have been badly hit.

Pets and barnyard animals have also been targeted by the mink, which hunts alone. Following a mass escape by mink in Yorkshire last year, 100 fowl were killed on one farm and two pet guinea pigs were savaged, one dying instantly, the other having to be put to sleep later.

Mink live on average for less than a year. One of the main causes of death is fighting with other mink. A baby mink reaches full adult size at only five months old.

Home is a "den" lined with fur and feathers from the unfortunate victims of its forays, along with grass and leaves. Ideal locations are under trees or within cavities in the banks of streams.

The huge mink population in Britain has been blamed on the animal rights campaigns of the 1970s and 1980s which persuaded women to stop wearing fur, encouraging farmers to set free their unwanted stock.

Imports find a home from home

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

IMPORTED species have a bad record in Britain, disrupting the environment and displacing native species such as red squirrels, voles and otters.

Damaging escapes of animals held in captivity have involved coypu (Canada), grey squirrels (North America), and ruddy ducks (Canada), all of which have made other species suffer. Wallabies (Australia) and edible dormice (in Roman times), though they have established local colonies, have not spread country-wide and remain a curiosity rather than a menace.

Foreign species, especially those from the US, flourish in Britain because the food supply is more plentiful, predators fewer, and winters milder.

Coypu escaped in the 1920s, but were restricted to East Anglia, and were trapped to extinction in the 1960s. The ruddy duck arrived in the 1950s, courtesy of the late Sir Peter Scott who ran the Wild-



The Australian wallaby likes Britain's climate

fowl Trust at Slimbridge in Gloucestershire.

Muntjac deer escaped from the Woburn estate in Bedfordshire before the Second World War, while the grey squirrel was deliberately introduced between 1876 and 1905 by animal lovers. Wild boars, a native species which disappeared at least a century ago, are now making a reappearance in Kent and Sussex, escapes from farms where they are bred for meat.



Terry Smith wears protective gloves to handle a recaptured mink. "They are among the most vicious animals in the world" he said

Welfare groups attack mink release

Continued from page 1

complete catastrophe for wildlife in the area."

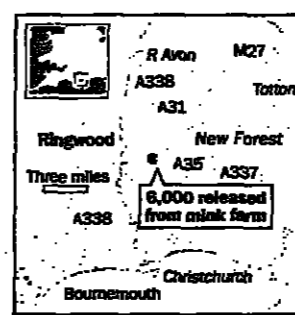
Traps are being set at the nearby River Avon and the Ministry of Agriculture has offered its assistance.

Police said many of the mink would never be recaptured - 200 were shot yesterday, including three at the New Forest Owl Sanctuary where the two birds of prey died. A keeper was patrolling the sanctuary last night and steel plates were placed in front of aviaries to prevent more mink burrowing in. Ed Gurd, who lives in Burley Lawn, about three miles away, described how he trapped one mink yesterday, after it attacked Nutmeg, the family cat. "It was a hot day so all the doors and windows were open. It just walked in through the front door. We

think it had its eye on our pet hamster. It ran into the lounge - we shut the door and it was running all over the carpet trying to get out. We used some bacon and bread to lure it into a conservatory, where it fell asleep."

Nutmeg was not badly hurt but has not been seen since its encounter with the mink. The Gurd family postponed a windsurfing trip to guard its pets, including chickens and a rabbit.

The mink pelts, which mature in the late autumn, are worth between £10 and £30 each. Terry Smith, 73, the owner of the farm, which was founded 40 years ago, said: "This was a mindless act. No-one who did this can have the welfare of animals at heart." The isolated farm, covering 13 acres, has been targeted sev-



erally times previously, including an arson attack in February. On Friday, Mr Smith appeared at Lyndhurst Magistrates Court accused of cruelty to the mink. He denied the charge but said he believed the attack could be linked to it.

At the farm yesterday, where the animals are kept in 15 sheds resembling a battery chicken farm, thousands of

recaptured mink were roaming semi free behind perimeter fences. "When we catch them we are just getting them behind the fences - we haven't had a chance to put them back in cages." The screams of the animals, natives of Canada, could be heard for several hundred yards. Mr Smith said he did not blame farmers for shooting his animals - others came to grief on nearby roads, which were busy with tourists to the nearby New Forest.

"Pound for pound these animals are amongst the most vicious in the world," said Mr Smith.

His men, wearing thick gloves, scoured nearby fields for stray mink. Lirida Shelton, who saw the aftermath of the mink liberation, said: "They were everywhere. It was absolute chaos." At one farm Suzy, a Jack Russell owned by Elizabeth Wiseman, protected 1,000 piglets by killing six mink. Police reporting for duty at Ringwood found one in their back yard.

Mark Glover of the campaign group Respect for Animals, said: "It seems unlikely they would be freed by anybody with true animal welfare intentions."

However the ALF was unrepentant last night. In a statement admitting responsibility it said: "Even if one per cent of the mink are to survive in the wild it means that individuals of the species are living a life free from pain, free from exploitation and free from abuse."

"Even if mink are being shot at least it is quicker than the way they are killed in the fur farms for coats that nobody really needs these days."

Statistics study is waist of time

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

PEOPLE cannot be trusted to measure their own waists, a study in Glasgow has shown. Men are worse than women, claiming their waists are more than two and a half inches less on average than they are.

Sucking in the stomach, measuring at the wrong place and overlightening the tape measure all help produce a flattering result. In women, the average error is one and three quarter inches.

Many dietary studies have shown the ability of people to kid themselves that they are eating less than they are. But this new study, by Dr Thang Han and Professor Michael Lean of the Department of Human Nutrition at Glasgow University, shows that even such a simple matter as measuring one's waist is prone to the same delusions.

It matters, says Professor Lean, because the waist measurement is a simple and remarkably reliable indication of health, present and future. He has produced a

new spring-loaded tape measure, the Waist Watcher, which together with clear instructions enables people to get much closer to the true figure.

The aptly-named professor, whose waist is a healthy 32 inches, has set two "action levels". Those whose waists exceed action level 1 (37 inches for men, 32 inches for women) should try to lose weight. Those exceeding action level 2 (40 inches for men, 35 for women) should get medical advice.

The study involved 101 men and 83 women, who were asked to provide details of their waist measurements as part of a heart-disease study. When they subsequently visited the Royal Infirmary in Glasgow, the measurement was repeated by a researcher to get the true figure.

Professor Lean, whose study is published in the *British Journal of Nutrition*, says that people "try to make the best" of their waist measurement.

Friends celebrate Brocket's freedom

By WARWICK MANSSELL

TO the strains of *Jailhouse Rock*, Lord Brocket celebrated his release from jail on Friday with a champagne party at the home of an old Army pal yesterday.

Some two dozen friends gathered at the 1,300-acre Hertfordshire estate of Nigel Hadden-Paton to mark Lord Brocket's release with a "breaking-out party." The pair first met when they served together in the Household Cavalry.

The Third Baron Brocket, released from Springhill jail after serving half of a five-year sentence for a £4.5 million insurance fraud, appeared to revel in the occasion.

A jazz band rattled out hits such as the old Sam Cooke number *Chain Gang*, George Michael's *Freedom* and Elvis Presley's *Jailhouse Rock*.

Mr Hadden-Paton, a friend of the Duchess of York, said the gathering was in honour of a man who had fallen on hard times. "All the people Lord Brocket wanted to attend

have come along and a good time is being had by all. We have some music, there are cucumber sandwiches, iced coffee and champagne in honour of a guy who's just got out of prison."

Mr Hadden-Paton refused to go into details about the guest list, but he said it "just might" include colleagues from The Blues and Royals, the Household Cavalry regiment which Lord Brocket joined after leaving Eton.

Lord Brocket, 46, a polo-playing friend of the Prince of Wales began his new life on Friday, when he was left Springhill jail on a Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

He said: "Some people have gone way out of their way to look after me and generally be supportive. They are getting together to welcome me home and back to a new life."

He must now seek permission from the probation service to go to Costa Rica to see his three children who live with his former wife Isa.

Palace welcomes abseiling photo

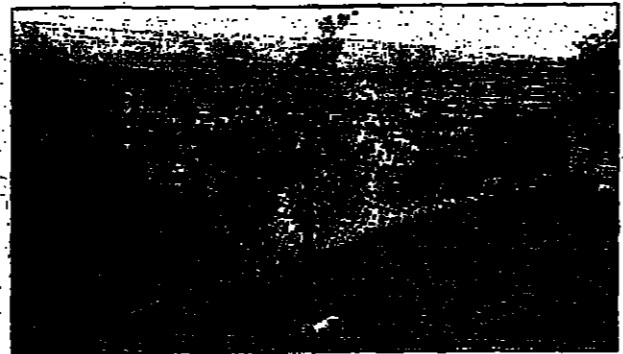
By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A ROYAL adventure in which Prince Harry and Prince William abseiled down a 160ft dam without helmets or a safety line may have been illicit as well as dangerous.

The Welsh utilities company Hyder, owner of the dam, was consulting records yesterday to see if the boys, supervised by former nanny Tiggy Legge-Bourke and detectives, broke their rules by failing to ask for permission. Groups can only abseil if they are insured.

Buckingham Palace, which began its own investigation, took the unusual step of welcoming the photographs which were published in the *News of the World* because they highlighted the paramount issue of the princes' safety.

The Royal Family is worried, though, that foreign newspapers will publish another photograph taken by



The 156ft Grwyne Fawr reservoir, where princes abseiled

the same member of the public showing Prince William hugging a girl in Wales. The overseas media have previously used intrusive shots of the prince rowing.

Prince Harry was photographed clambering over the top of the 156ft dam at Grwyne Fawr reservoir in the Black Mountains near Miss Legge-Bourke's family home in Crickhowell.

His head is unprotected

and he has no safety line. Experts warn that abseilers should wear helmets and a safety line is normal practice, in case climbers lose their grip on the rope they are using to descend.

Maggie LeMoryan, whose husband Mark Cumbe took the pictures, is quoted saying she saw Harry go down three times and William once, watched by a party of friends. The boys have abseiled be-

fore. Buckingham Palace was shown the pictures by the newspaper on Saturday night and sent a message to the princes, who are on a Greek islands sailing holiday with their father.

"We have photographs now which show Harry not wearing a helmet. We will be asking someone to look at them to give us an analysis to say what proper safety methods weren't used," said a spokeswoman. "Knowing Tiggy, if there is a suggestion the children could have been hurt in any way she would be mortified."

The pictures were taken during an outing eight days ago when Miss Legge-Bourke, her brother Harry, a lieutenant in the Welsh Guards, and the detectives were *in loco parentis*.

The investigation is likely to take time because many of those involved are on holiday. The police would have to look into the detectives' role.

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Bishop and the showgirl who rocked the Church

By Valerie Elliott, Whitehall Editor

IT TOOK 15 months and a thorough trawl through the establishment to find the new Bishop of Southwell. But all the vetting and soundings gave no hint that the new incumbent would provoke sensational newspaper headlines after an affair with a topless dancer from a West End nightclub.



Savage: vettings gave no clue of potential scandal

enthroned at Southwell Minister in 1964. Bishop Savage called for "Mods and Rockers" to be brought into the Church to show that older people were willing to listen to the young. He embarked on "meet the people" visits around Nottinghamshire, and even went down a coalmine.

But unknown to his congregation, his Danish wife Eva and their three children, Bishop Savage was making visits to the Eve Club in Regent Street, London, where he met Amanda Lovejoy, a showgirl also known as Joy Shaw. After six years, his wife left him. Bishop Savage continued to see Miss Lovejoy, who had started a poodle-clipping business in Luton. He resigned over "ill-health" in 1970.

The scandal of Southwell might never have occurred. The Rt Rev Savage, then Bishop of Buckingham, was not first choice, according to the records. A hefty file reveals the painstaking inquiries that were made in 1962 and 1963 about possible choices to replace the Rt Rev Frank Russell Barry, then 72, who had been Bishop of Southwell for 22 years. It records the agonising over certain names and the careful consideration given to appointments by John Hewitt (later Sir John), the former



Gordon Savage as he appeared in the News of the World



Amanda Lovejoy, the London showgirl with whom he had an affair

Patronage Secretary to the Prime Minister, who for 12 years recommended names for ecclesiastical appointments and lord lieutenants.

The papers throw light on the discreet procedures that operated between No 10, Buckingham Palace and Lambeth Palace about finding the right people, a system still in force today.

Hewitt, a former senior official at Customs and Excise, had been just two years in post when the Southwell vacancy loomed. It was a senior post and Bishop Barry was a tough act to follow. As a canon at Westminster, he had saved the Abbey in the Blitz by telephoning Winston Churchill and telling him to send a fire engine.

It was September before a shortlist of four was sent to

Harold Macmillan: Douglas Harrison, then Dean of Bristol; Archdeacon Strutt of Maidstone; Edward Carpenter, Westminster Abbey; and Leonard Beecher, East Africa. The Prime Minister was clear: "I favour Beecher. If he refuses, start again!"

A month later, Beecher turned down the post, and Hewitt also had to work with a new man at No 10, Alec Dou-

glas-Horne. The name of Gordon Savage cropped up. The Rt Rev Harry Carpenter, Bishop of Oxford, wrote of him: "It can be truly said that he has the confidence of the clergy and people of all kinds of outlook."

Douglas-Horne, who knew him from Chequers, said: "Gordon Savage is I think the right choice."

After Bishop Savage's resignation in 1970, he was appointed Anglican chaplain at All Saints, Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, with Miss Lovejoy as his "housekeeper". He stood down after an exchange of letters with the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Ramsey. Later, he married Miss Lovejoy, they had a son and he returned to Britain to work with dyslexics. He died eight years ago.

Balloon spy flights to Russia planned by MoD

By Tim Jones

BRITISH defence chiefs in the 1950s planned to float giant balloons 9,000 miles across the Soviet Union to gather intelligence which would give warning of a Cold War nuclear strike.

Although the United States was launching its own balloons from the Royal Navy air station at Evanton, Highland, the RAF feared that vital information might be withheld from it. Papers just released by the Public Record Office show that in 1955 the RAF decided to ask the US Air Force for permission to send specialists to Evanton to study the technical factors involved in launching the balloons.

The US had spent \$68 million on producing about 3,500 balloons, which were also to be launched from bases in Germany, Turkey and Norway. The balloons, equipped with high-definition cameras and recording equipment, were about 150ft high and it was estimated they could cover 65 per cent of Soviet-occupied territory in flights lasting between six and nine days. Officially, the spy flights were said to be meteorological experiments.

They were designed to fly at between 40,000-60,000ft, well above the maximum altitude of Soviet attack fighters of the time. The twin cameras and recording equipment were housed in a 400lb gondola.

Those which completed their journey across Soviet territory were intercepted by USAF C119 aircraft in Japan and the data taken away.

The papers, released under the open government initiative, show that the RAF wanted to develop the balloons further by giving them radio counter-measure equipment to assist in radar surveillance. If successful, the report states, "then a highly effective method of peacetime area reconnaissance of a potential enemy's territory will have been achieved".

By February 1956, the US had launched 461 balloons. Just over half were thought to have penetrated Soviet airspace. Operations ceased in 1956.

Why the King did not want to stand on ceremony

By Richard Ford, Home Correspondent

THE minister wanted the opening of the Chamber of the Commons that replaced the one destroyed by a wartime bomb to resemble a glittering state occasion. But Buckingham Palace insisted that the King would attend in morning dress rather than uniform and arrive by car, not horse-drawn carriage.

The behind-the-scenes dispute, in

1950, is disclosed in papers at the Public Record Office at Kew. The Palace was determined to draw a distinction between the State Opening of Parliament and the mere opening of a new building.

Richard Stokes, Minister for Works in the Attlee Government, wanted George VI to wear uniform, be accompanied to Westminster Hall by a Sovereign's Escort and be greeted by a Guard of Honour. A note by the Prime Minister's pri-

vate secretary in July discloses that the King's private secretary, Sir Alan Lascelles, thought it unwise for the King to attend in full state dress as he was to attend the State Opening two weeks later.

Three months later, Stokes asked whether there could be a Guard of Honour for an occasion that was the first time all Speakers of Commonwealth Parliaments had been together ceremonially. But it was considered unusual for the King, as

a holder of military rank, to inspect a Guard of Honour in mufti.

The minister then wrote to Lascelles that the King could decide what to wear and that he was not "criticising his decision to come in a plain van", but that "very great disappointment will be felt throughout the Empire and much of the romance taken out of the whole celebration".

Lascelles replied that the ceremony itself would provide dignity and

romance. He added: "The only argument against the King's decision appears to be that people like a circus whenever they can get it. . . I believe you will agree that none of the institutions of major importance . . . ought ever to be made use of in this way unless there is full justification for making the sort of show which the man in the street enjoys without always reflecting on its appropriateness."

Stokes, still unhappy, replied that

the best bit of propaganda ever done for Britain had been the filming of Princess Elizabeth's wedding. Lascelles delivered a magisterial putdown. "Man cannot live by propaganda alone and if our standards of what is right and proper in an English ceremonial have got to conform to what people expect to see on the movies, I for one should prefer to give up the unequal contest and never wear anything more elaborate than my billycock hat".

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COMING SOON

Chancellor goes for a £135 'barber boom'

Gillian Harris and Carol Midgley run comb over costly haircuts

GORDON BROWN was plunged headfirst into a row over expenditure last night which left a question mark over his legendary financial prudence. The Chancellor, it was revealed, now splashes out £135 a time to have his hair cut.

Mr Brown has followed the lead of his Downing Street neighbour Tony Blair and of his alleged rival Peter Mandelson by enlisting the services of Kevin Graham, a top stylist with the royal hairdressers Michaeljohn, to

keep his unruly locks under control.

Mr Brown, whose proverbial frugality with the nation's resources earned him the nickname "Iron Chancellor", is, however, prepared to part with £60 of his own money for a shampoo and trim — plus £75 for a home visit which saves him making the journey to the Mayfair salon himself.

But yesterday the local veteran barber in Mr Brown's Dunfermline constituency, Henry Dellar, said that for £4 he could give the Chancellor a

neater, shorter cut which would "not look so untidy around the ears".

If Mr Brown applied economic good sense to his haircuts he could afford 33 haircuts from Henry Dellar — a traditionalist who uses vaseline and Brylcreem rather than mousse and gel — for the price of one visit by Mr Graham. Even including the cost of a flight from London to Edinburgh, it would still work out cheaper.

"I suppose it's a case of having the money so he wants

to throw it around," said Mr Dellar. "But I don't think it is worth it. I don't think his hair looks that great anyway."

"I would cut it a wee bit shorter because I don't think much of the way it is cut round his ears just now. He would get a very good haircut if he came to me and still have change from a fiver. We don't waste time shampooing unless the customer asks for it. We just cut hair."

Designer stylists are certainly a long way from the House of Commons barber whom Mr Brown used to visit as a mere backbencher. Stephen Silverne, who tended to MPs' hair for 27 years until he was pushed out by a unisex salon last year, used to charge just £4.25 for a fuss-free dry cut and £3 for a shave.

Over the course of a year, using Mr Graham's home services — once every two months, Mr Brown will spend an estimated £810 on his hair. For that price he could have afforded more than 80 cuts in the old House of Commons barbers or fine up regular trims in Dunfermline well into the next century.

Mr Brown's tonsorial expenditure left one constituent unimpressed. "It seems ridiculous," said Nancy Chalmers, a nurse. "His hair always looks the same anyway."

In truth, Mr Brown might feel quite at home in Henry Dellar's. According to Frank



The tonsorial progress of Gordon — below, as a boy, a student, and a young MP; and above as Chancellor



A Dunfermline hairdresser, left, could provide the local MP with a more prudently priced haircut than the expensive London stylist Michaeljohn, his current choice



Warner, of Michaeljohn, the Chancellor spends only 15 to 20 minutes having his hair cut and does not bother having it blow-dried.

A friend of Mr Brown's from his time at university in Edinburgh conceded that the Chancellor was an unlikely convert to the pleasures of expensive grooming. "In all the time I knew him I only remember him getting his hair cut once," said the friend. "Mind you, he was trying to grow it then. But I think he had very slow-growing hair. It never seemed to get any longer."

Blair says Tuscany stay is a 'fundamental right'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN FLORENCE

MIDWAY through his fortnight's holiday in Tuscany, Tony Blair hit back at critics who suggested he should have taken his holiday in Britain.

In Florence to meet Varrino Chiti, the President of the Tuscan Region, Mr Blair said everybody had a "fundamental right" to choose their own holiday destination.

"Prime Ministers have this right, too," he said. He conceded that "Chianti-shire" was full of British visitors and residents, but said that put him "in very good company".

To charges that Tuscany was hot and dusty — it was 36C (97F) there yesterday — with fewer amusements for children than the seaside, Mr Blair countered that he, his wife Cherie, their children — Euan, Nicholas and Kathryn — and his mother-in-law were pleased with the "special atmosphere" of Tuscany, its

"marvellous climate, food, wine, and landscape", and the "hospitality of its people". Mr Blair observed drily that, like most Britons, he did not find it too hard to put up with the heat.

The Blairs are staying near San Gimignano on the wine-producing estate of Prince Giacomo Strozzi, who comes from one of Italy's oldest aristocratic dynasties. Although he had only known them for a year, the Prince offered the Blairs the use of his 50-room villa, library, swimming pool and tennis courts when it became clear that the Prime Minister wanted to holiday in Tuscany but did not want to stay on the nearby estate of Geoffrey Robinson, the embattled Paymaster General, where the Blair family had spent the past two summers.

Prince Strozzi said reports that he was driven out of his

own villa by the Blairs were "absurd inventions". He said he, his wife, Irina, and their two daughters had moved to another wing of the villa in the former stable block, to give the Blairs privacy. The Blair and Strozzi families dined together in a San Gimignano restaurant and attended a Rossini concert in a local church on Friday evening.

On Saturday Mr Blair and Signor Chiti visited the house just outside Florence where Machiavelli is said to have written *The Prince*, his celebrated manual of political expediency and manipulation. Mrs Blair and Mrs Chiti went shopping in Florence for perfume.

Yesterday the Blairs returned to Cusona for swimming, tennis and long walks. They are due to move on to the South of France for the second leg of their summer break this weekend.

Dome's face of future is Stone Age

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE figure of a woman chosen as the logo of the Millennium Dome, symbolising Britain's future, bears a striking resemblance to cave paintings in the Sahara dating back 8,000 years.

The similarity between the image known as "New Britannia" and the neolithic frescoes in the Tassili plateau of Algeria was noticed by the British archaeologist James Pickering. Mr Pickering, 83, argues that the use of a pagan image is inappropriate for the celebration of the 2,000th birthday of Christ. He also points out that the New Millennium Experience Company could have saved public money by using the original frescoes instead of paying Mark Reddy, an artist from the advertising industry, to design the symbol.

"The relevance of a prehistoric icon to a Christian celebration escapes me, as also does the need to purchase the rights of reproduction of commercial art on marketing material for such extraordinary amounts," Mr Pickering said. "Perhaps it is appropriate that a logo associated with 'New Labour, New Britain' is less than accurate in its claims and over-expensive."

When the symbol was unveiled in June, doctors noted that near-identical figures, also created by Mr Reddy, were being used to advertise angina pills.

Mr Reddy said that he was inspired by cave paintings but had not seen the Tassili frescoes.

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Foreign Office to let mothers be ambassadors

Review will mean women do not have to sacrifice a diplomatic career for children, writes Valerie Elliott

THE Foreign Office is to change its rules to ensure that women with children have an equal chance of reaching the rank of ambassador.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, is keen to overturn the policy that has meant no woman diplomat with children has been appointed to the highest rung on the FO ladder. The change is certain to come after a review to be set up by Mr Cook to discover whether career breaks taken by staff for motherhood have affected their job prospects.

Senior women diplomats have campaigned for years for the Foreign Office to recognise the breaks. When mothers have returned to work they have frequently been stuck in their former junior grade while male counterparts have been promoted. Many then dropped out.



Pauline Collins in *The Ambassador* on BBC

Mr Cook recognises that the FO must change if it is to retain the best women graduates in the diplomatic service. In the recent summer selection for new fast-stream entrants, 12 out of the 23 recruits were women, the highest number for several years.

He and senior diplomats were also shamed when Pauline Collins, starring as the fictional Harriet Smith in the recent *The Ambassador* series, scored a first over her real-life counterparts. Ambassador Smith — who is to return in a second series this winter — is a mother of two.

She met her husband when they were assigned to a joint project. She argued with him then and admits there is no problem in disagreeing with her husband as a colleague at work and being perfectly happy at home.

She puts her success of juggling career and family down to "joint postings" but accepts that the day might come when one of them will have to take "special unpaid leave" to accompany the other abroad. This perk allows diplomats to break off employment for a short period, but they are allowed to work for someone else.



Nicola Brewer, with children Rhodri and Angharad at the Delhi High Commission, is setting pace for new recruits

Delhi it takes just three minutes from her office to their home and she can even have lunch with her children most days. There is also plenty of time to put the children to bed before she goes out to the diplomatic round of receptions and parties.

She is delighted with Mr Cook's attitude. "If people take a career break or special unpaid leave I think they should ensure they get some credit for what they have done. Maybe they will learn a language, and they could certainly take a Foreign Office examination."

THE change of rules on married women and the recognition of career breaks comes too late for Georgina Wright, who had to resign from the Diplomatic Service in 1970 when she got married. Wright and her husband Stephen moved to their Foreign Office careers on the day that Mr Wright's new employer, the Ministry of Works, offered her a job. Mrs Wright offered her a job in the same office as the UN, but she was pregnant and involved travel to Geneva, so she had to turn down the offer. She realised then that a career break for her to catch up with the Foreign Office contemporaries had not been possible.

Career women 'drink too much for their health'

By CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

PROFESSIONAL single women in their mid-twenties to early thirties are most at risk of developing serious drink problems, the BBC consumer programme *Watchdog* will claim tonight. Investigations for the show reveal that three million women — one in eight — drinks more than the UK recommended two units of alcohol a day — with a unit calculated as half a pint of beer or a glass of wine. Half a million, or one woman in 50, is drinking six bottles of wine a week, the equivalent of 36 glasses.

good physical reason why women can't drink as much as men. "They have more body fat and less body water. Since alcohol is distributed only in the body water, that means that any alcohol they drink is more concentrated and therefore can do them more harm."

Films play lead role in historic houses' success

By HELEN DANIEL

VISITORS are flocking to England's historic homes and castles in record numbers. The properties, which include the Tower of London and Canterbury Cathedral, had 71 million visitors in 1997, 2 per cent more than in 1996 and the third successive annual increase, the English Tourist Board announced yesterday.

The increases came as the strong pound forced tourists to be selective in their sight-seeing choices. Many saw a day trip to an historic property as a value-for-money cultural experience, Ms Leslie said.

Westminster Abbey attracted the most free admissions — around 2.5 million — and York Minster had about 2 million.

| THE TOP 10 | |
|---|-----------|
| 1: Tower of London | 2,615,170 |
| 2: Canterbury Cathedral | 1,613,000 |
| 3: Windsor Castle | 1,129,000 |
| 4: St Paul's Cathedral | 964,737 |
| 5: Roman Baths and Pump Room, Bath | 933,489 |
| 6: Warwick Castle | 788,000 |
| 7: Stonehenge, Wiltshire | 772,983 |
| 8: Hampton Court Palace, southwest London | 643,229 |
| 9: Leeds Castle, Kent | 594,670 |
| 10: Chatsworth House | 489,672 |

Carey cautions Church against 'demonising'

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

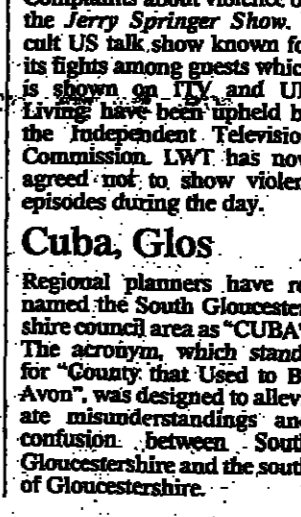
THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, has warned Anglicans against "demonising" their fellows with whom they disagree.

Dr Carey, in his valedictory sermon to the Lambeth conference, said the 739 bishops, during their three weeks together, had at times glimpsed something of the glory of God in each other's faces.

Student stabbed

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A 15-year-old Russian girl studying English in Oxford was in intensive care after she was stabbed by a man trying to steal her rucksack. The teenager was walking with a friend on Saturday night when the attack happened. Her wounds are not thought to be life threatening.



Complaints about violence on the *Jerry Springer Show*, a cult US talk show known for its fights among guests which is shown on ITV and UK Living have been upheld by the Independent Television Commission. ITC has now agreed not to show violent episodes during the day.

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From House of God to home of Mammon



Today *The Times* begins a summer series looking at how scenes captured by artists from Canaletto to Lowry have altered. Some are almost unchanged, others transformed. Next to the prosaic clarity of photographs, all are a revelation

No 1: Canaletto, London: *The Thames from Somerset House Terrace Towards the City*

The painter's airy vision of St Paul's dominance has been clouded by City skyscrapers, writes Alan Hamilton

WHEN Canaletto was lured to London from Venice by wealthy English patrons in 1746, he saw a city majestically rejuvenated after the Great Fire.

His view downriver from the terrace of the old Somerset House, painted about 1750, shows a skyline dominated by St Paul's, completed 37 years before, and bristling with the spires of the parish churches erected by Wren and his pupils.

The intervening years have seen the inexorable rise of the City skyline, and the gradual diminution of its store of churches.

The Great Fire destroyed 87 of the City's 108 churches; 53 were rebuilt by Wren and his associates, so Canaletto would have seen some 70 spires. A Victorian passion for rationalisation ensured that many of those were knocked down last century, and the work was finished off by the Luftwaffe.

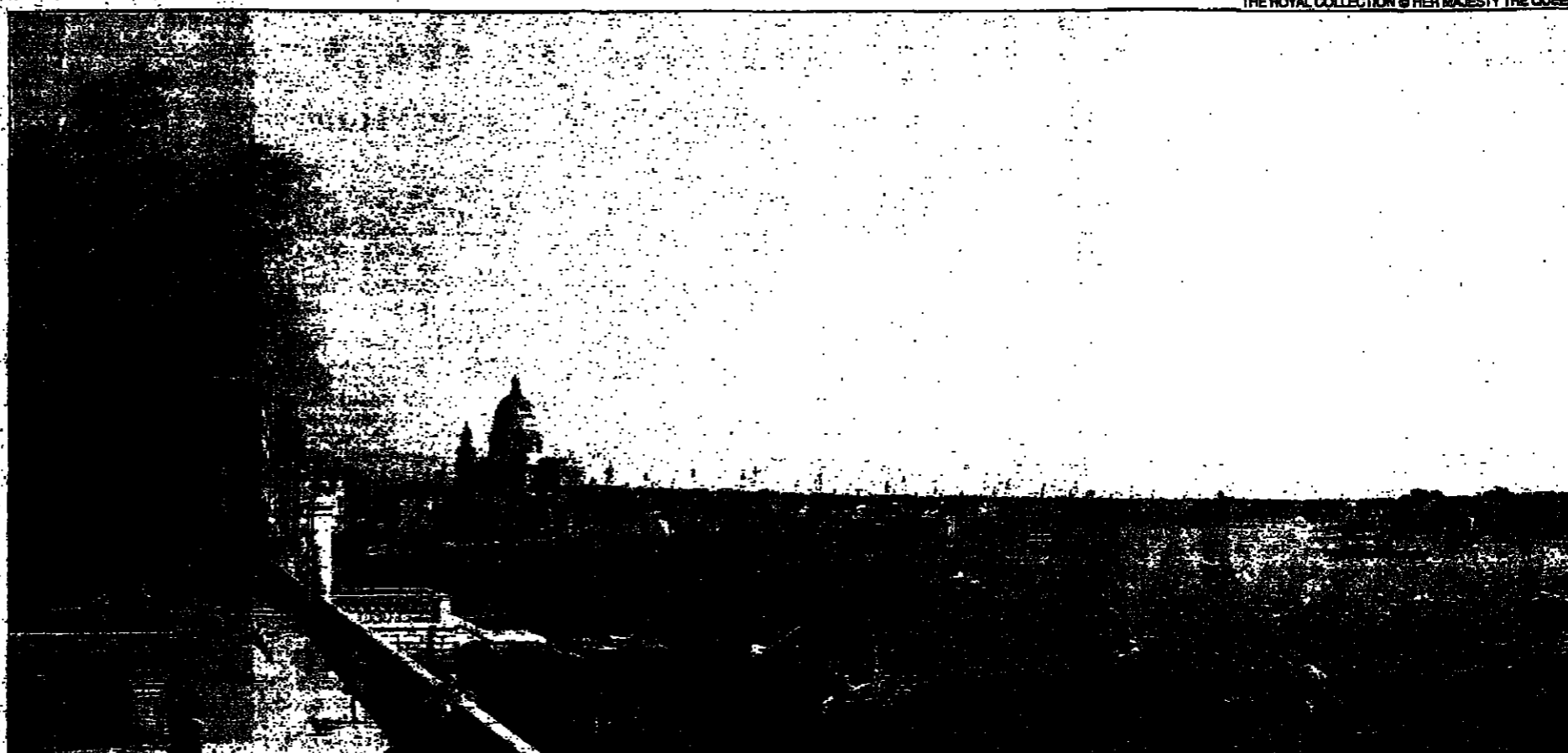
The City's population is now reduced to barely 7,500, and the Square Mile now contains just 38 churches, not all of them active. The latest loss, through an IRA bomb, was St Ethelburga's at Bishopsgate in 1993, although it is to be rebuilt. Not that it is easy to see any but St Paul's today. The building blocks of Mammon have largely obscured them.

At 365 feet to the tip of its lantern, St Paul's remained the highest building in the City for 254 years. But around it, other fingers pointed ever closer to the sky. The Monument of 1677, at 202 feet, was soon exceeded by the spire of Wren's St Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside (1683, 221 ft) and St Bride's in Fleet Street (1684, 224 ft), the latter being the pinnacle of the City skyline until the completion of Wren's great Cathedral.

For the next two and a half centuries, nothing dared compete. Churches and monuments apart, the highest building in the City until the 1960s was the dome of the Old Bailey built in 1907, its statue of Justice reaching 191 feet.

Three years later the Commercial Union tower at No 1 Undershaft reached 373 feet, and in 1972 the three towers of the Barbican topped out at 412 feet to become the highest flats in Europe.

Richard Siefert delivered the final coup de grace in 1980 with his NatWest Tower at 601 feet, Britain's tallest building until Canary Wharf rose 800 feet in the east; that final Siefert foot seemed to cock a particular snook at Wren. So six City towers exceed St Paul's, as do the BT Tower, the Hilton Hotel, the Euston Centre and Millbank Tower elsewhere in Greater London. Subsequent building in the City has not aspired to break records: the Lloyds building of 1986 is a puny 273 feet, and the 1994 Barclays Bank headquarters at 54 Lombard Street is only a fraction taller at 282 feet.

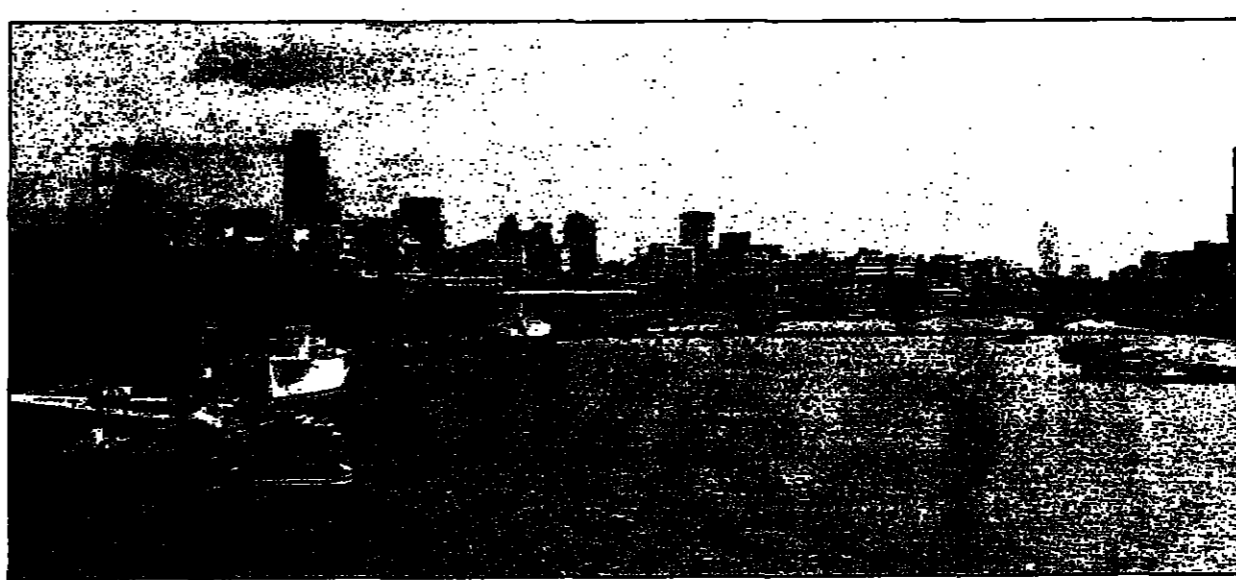


The harmonious skyline of Canaletto's 1750 painting, made after the post-Great Fire rejuvenation of the City, is in stark contrast to the modern view from a similar perspective

There was great commotion in 1932 when the Faraday Building, a telephone exchange in Queen Victoria Street, reached 113 feet. Its bulk was regarded as an unwelcome intrusion in the sacred vista of the cathedral as seen from afar, and the outcry led to the imposition of the St Paul's Heights building rules.

These were bent to the limit by the Panometer Square development of the Sixties, but generally ensured that commercial high-rise was kept to the eastern end of the City.

The unwritten taboo of not exceeding St Paul's was finally broken in 1967 by British Petroleum, whose Britannic House headquarters in Moorgate reached an unlovely 390 feet.



But they are still skyscrapers by comparison with Adelaide House in King William Street, which was the tallest office building in London in 1925 and was considered exceedingly daring, with its rubber floors and rooftop golf course, at 148 feet.

Canaletto would find other major changes to his cityscape were he to return today, not least the profusion of bridges.

In his day there was only one. He would marvel at the building of the Embankment, constructed in the 1860s to contain sewers and the District Line.

Perverse Londoners took years to accept it as a speedy bypass to the City, preferring instead to use the hopelessly congested old route of the Strand, Fleet Street and Ludgate Hill. His viewpoint is also gone. The old Somerset House was torn down to be replaced in 1780 by Sir William Chambers's massive construction, which still stands, the largest public building of the Georgian era.

Canaletto's painting, which hangs in the private apartments at Windsor Castle, is not on public display, but may be shown at future exhibitions arranged by its owners, The Royal Collection.

Canaletto's view can be most closely replicated from the pavement on the northern end of Waterloo Bridge.

But as great as a change in the architecture is a change in the light. Canaletto painted London under a limpid Italian sky; the photochemical traffic smog which can now gather — if we ever have another prolonged spell of hot weather — is more suited to the yellows of Turner.

Canaletto's painting, which hangs in the private apartments at Windsor Castle, is not on public display, but may be shown at future exhibitions arranged by its owners, The Royal Collection.

□ NEXT: William Powell Frith, *Ramsgate Sands: 'Life at the Seaside'* (1854).

Leading article, page 19

In '99 The Disability Discrimination Act will affect you and your customers in new ways.

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Class of '98 graduates are the 'worst crop in 20 years'

Employers now value work experience over academic qualifications, reports John O'Leary

THE class of 1998 is the worst in 20 years, employers said yesterday as they voiced concern over the quality of graduates, even from some of the most prestigious universities.

A recruitment consultancy reported that employers were struggling to recruit good-quality graduates from the record numbers available after the rapid expansion of higher education over the last decade. Personnel directors of some of Britain's biggest companies said they were now more influenced by work experience than top academic qualifications.

The results come as the Government is planning 500,000 more places in further and higher education. Some business organisations, including the Institute of Directors, have questioned the need for further university expansion at a time when many graduates are unable to find suitable jobs.

Media Contacts, a London-based recruitment consultan-

cy, interviewed more than 600 graduates seeking careers in the media this month. But, although the company had 250 vacancies to fill, only 154 candidates were granted second interviews and a mere 26 were put forward to employers.

Fugh Joslin, the company's managing director, said: "Of the 20 years I have worked in the recruitment industry, this is the worst crop of graduates I've seen. Some are very good

but, in general, standards have dropped dramatically." Mr Joslin blamed a decline in educational standards for the problems and said that qualifications were becoming easier to obtain.

A second business survey, to be published this week, shows a shift away from reliance on traditional academic qualifications in selection procedures. Recruiters say they are more impressed by relevant academic and work experi-

ence than a degree from a top university.

Only Oxford and Cambridge University degrees were seen as an automatic advantage by more than a quarter of the 187 personnel managers and directors responding to the survey, Manchester University degrees were the next biggest attraction, impressing 22 per cent.

Even postgraduate qualifications were not seen to give a great advantage in the employment market. The vast majority of firms preferred graduates with work experience.

The study, carried out by RRC Business Training among companies with an average of 900 employees, showed employers had a growing appetite for vocational degrees. While seven out of ten companies said that the university an applicant had attended was unimportant, over three quarters looked closely at the subject studied.

Business studies was most popular, with 63 per cent of managers favouring the subject, followed by engineering, English, chemistry and psychology were the least popular, with only 15 per cent of managers looking on them favourably.

Gary Fallaise, RRC's managing director, said the survey should be encouraging for those who did not attend the most prestigious universities. "The findings are borne out by our experience, which shows that in today's competitive market employers want staff who have either the relevant qualifications or experience for the job they are to fill."

The Higher Education Funding Council for England is planning to provide incentives for universities and colleges to work more closely with business and industry. Up to £5 million will be made available for long-term collaboration aimed at boosting professional capability.



A critic of the Perrier, Stewart Lee says: "If people are worried, they play safe"

INSTALMENT FEE CHARGES

Students who want to pay their tuition fees in instalments may be charged by universities. A spokesman for the Department for Education and Employment said it "strongly discouraged" universities charging administration fees, saying grants to universities should already cover the cost of administration. Universities, however, said this was "nonsense", and accused ministers of under-estimating the administrative costs. The National Union of Students said the row showed that the introduction of fees was "going wrong before it has even started", and it predicted further "confusion" for students and their parents. PA

Brave comedy? We've heard that one before

Fringe award blamed for reducing spontaneity, reports Dalya Alberge

THEY are billed as the daring new voices of stand-up comedy, taking risks to express an alternative point of view. But there is growing concern among Edinburgh's comedy fringe that too many young comedians are now playing safe in the hope of winning a prize or at least a contract to chair a television game show. The hope of winning the festival's Perrier award for comedy is being blamed for ambitious comedians who arrive with ready-made shows of tested routines, rather than experimenting with new material. Now there are calls for the Perrier to be scrapped to give comedy back its fizz.

In the 17 years since the award was founded, the Perrier has become comedy's Oscar. Past winners include Steve Coogan, Frank Skinner and Jenny Eclair, and runners-up include Eddie Izzard, Jack Dee, Jo Brand and Greg Proops. This year's £3,000 winner will be announced on August 29, picked by a ten-strong judging panel that includes Alan Nixon, Channel 5's controller of entertainment, and Katie Taylor, Channel 4's deputy commissioning editor.

However, the director of The Stand comedy club is boycotting the event this year, and comedians criticising the Perrier include Stewart Lee, the television comedian best-known as half of the Lee and Herring comedy duo.

"If people are worried about winning the Perrier, they play safe and that's not what Edinburgh is about," said Lee. "We need the right to fail, to try out material. In London, you're put on by promoters. You do a weird act in a circuit gig and they're not sure if they want to book you again." At Edinburgh, as they paid for venues themselves, they wanted freedom of expression.

Lee, 30, who has been appearing at Edinburgh for 12 years, is doing a show about

being a standup this year. He said that comedians are so desperate to create a buzz—to get tipped for the award before the festival has begun—they use ready-made shows so they can be recommended by people who have seen them elsewhere. "There is always a lot of speculation about who's tipped for the Perrier. Nobody should be tipped until they've got here. It kills spontaneity."

He is also critical of "the kind of television producer who lives in London, could go and see these shows any time but comes to Edinburgh on a freebie, waits for people to make a decision on the six best acts and tries to sign them up."

Tommy Sheppard, director of The Stand comedy club, has asked the fringe box-office not to give free tickets to Perrier judges wanting to see any of his 13 shows. He said: "The flagging Perrier is a symptom of a big comedy business which has run out of ideas and has to hope that its own hype can substitute for excitement and effervescence. There is more spin here than in the Labour Party. This has become such a trade fair that the spirit of the fringe is in danger of withering. They are looking for young blokes to be presenters of cheap TV programmes and another ridiculous Channel 5 gameshow."

Al Murray, nominated for the Perrier in 1996 and 1997, said the competition placed performers in a race they never entered but "Comics are more competitive than they like to admit."

Nica Burns, director of the Perrier, said that they raised the profile of the art form, and dismissed the suggestion that performers bring ready-made shows to Edinburgh. Many get them into shape only in London previews, she said.

Two "Perrier Pick of the Fringe" shows at the end of the festival are sold out.

Holy Island glaziers see window of opportunity

By Warwick Mansell

A COUNCIL'S plan to preserve the idyllic character of one of Britain's most important religious sites has led to a boom for double-glazing firms.

Berwick Borough Council had hoped a new regulation forcing the 140 residents of Holy Island to obtain planning permission for alterations to their houses would curb the ugly proliferation of satellite dishes.

But residents of the island off the Northumberland coast—which is seen by many as the cradle of Christianity in northern England—have rushed to upgrade their homes before the rule comes into effect. The number of

properties fitted with double glazing has leapt from 23 to 40 since the council announced its plan in May.

The council passed the new rule last week, but the island's residents' association is considering an appeal to the Environment Secretary.

Councillor Ian McGregor, who represents the island, which attracts 350,000 visitors a year, admitted the new directive had backfired. He said: "The directive has actually made things worse as far as UPVC is concerned."

But he added: "We are asking people to put in an application and let us have a look at it. There will be no fee for making the application."



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Tripp notebook serves up new wave of evidence against Clinton

ALTHOUGH Hillary Clinton is still urging her husband to stick to his denials when he testifies about Monica Lewinsky next Monday, a new shoal of evidence against him has been divulged.

Linda Tripp was said yesterday to have given the prosecution her notebook packed with times, dates, places and circumstances of Ms Lewinsky's alleged liaisons with the President. The notebook included a chronicle of events that took place during the months not covered by the audiotapes that Ms Tripp secretly recorded of her telephone conversations with Ms Lewinsky. According to *Time*

New evidence threatens to make Clinton's denials more perilous, writes Ian Brodie

magazine, Ms Tripp gave the book, filled with 80 to 100 pages of tight shorthand, to Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, during one of their first encounters last January.

The notes gave him a skeleton key that enabled him to track down White House visitors' records and phone logs. They helped in his questioning of Secret Service agents as he reconstructed the relationship from beginning to

end. Quoting unnamed legal sources, *Time* said the book may also have helped Mr Starr to test Ms Lewinsky's credibility and to jog her memory once she began co-operating under her immunity deal.

A private lawyer involved in the case said that even if Ms Lewinsky's allegedly semen-stained dress turned out to be nothing, there was plenty of other evidence, including Mr Clinton's telephone

messages and gifts to Ms Lewinsky. "They were alone an awful lot," the lawyer said.

The shorthand note-taking was said to have begun about a year ago when Ms Lewinsky was distraught over Mr Clinton's decision to break off their relationship. She began referring to him as "the Big Creep". She talked for hours to Ms Tripp, who wrote it all down.

Several reports yesterday described Mrs Clinton's vigorous opposition to her husband throwing himself on the mercy of the nation by saying that he misrepresented his relationship with Ms Lewinsky to protect his wife and

daughter from embarrassment. She was said to regard the idea as a trap that would only put Mr Clinton into a worse legal bind.

As one of very few people who can speak to him without fear of a Starr subpoena, she cancelled plans to go on ahead for their holiday on Martha's Vineyard and is now expected to stay until he testifies.

His private lawyer, David Kendall, and other allies who believe the President told the truth when he said he did not have sexual relations with "that woman", are also urging him to continue his denials rather than take to the path

of contrition. According to this argument, Ms Lewinsky was a fantasising stalker of the President.

Denial could become increasingly perilous if, as expected, Mr Starr unfolds a strong body of corroborating evidence during Mr Clinton's unprecedented appearance via closed-circuit television before the grand jury.

In a potentially significant development, *Newsweek* reports today that, contrary to expectations, Mr Starr's report to Congress is not expected to present evidence of a broad pattern of obstruction of justice by Mr Clinton and will focus instead only on the Lewinsky

matter and other allegations flowing out of the Paula Jones case. The magazine said that, according to its sources, whatever evidence Mr Starr has developed against the President in other matters, such as the Whitewater land speculation, the White House travel office sackings and the scandal of FBI files ending up in the hands of the Administration, it is not strong enough to be included in an impeachment report.

If true, the narrow scope of the report would allow White House spin-doctors to denigrate Mr Starr's four-year inquiry as no more than a sexual witch-hunt.

America blocks UN searches for Iraqi arms

THE United States is so eager to avoid a new military confrontation with Iraq that it has blocked more United Nations weapons inspections this year than Baghdad.

Diplomatic sources say Washington has repeatedly intervened to prevent UN weapons inspectors from mounting what it fears could be provocative searches for banned weaponry, equipment and documentation in Iraq.

At one point the Clinton Administration objected to a plan by the UN Special Commission (Unscorm) to revisit one of the "presidential sites" that lay at the centre of the last crisis with Baghdad. Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, is even said to have intervened personally to urge restraint in a recent telephone call to Richard Butler, the Unscorm chairman.

America appears to have concluded that Iraq is trying to provoke it into military retaliation that could rip apart the already fraying support for continued UN sanctions. After Iraq's decision last week to suspend all co-operation with UN inspectors, Bill Richardson, President Clinton's UN representative, insisted that the United States would not be "goaded by Iraq" into military action.

During the last stand-off, Washington spent \$1.5 billion (£910 million) to deploy troops.

Clinton refuses to be goaded into a fresh conflict, writes James Bone

warplanes and aircraft carriers to the Gulf only to be criticised for having no clear military objective. That crisis ended in February when Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, negotiated a memorandum of understanding with President Saddam Hussein guaranteeing UN inspectors access to all sites in the country.

Despite its reservations about the conditions placed on access to eight "presidential sites", the United States joined the rest of the 15-nation Security Council in endorsing Mr Annan's deal. But Washington insisted that the Security Council also warn Iraq that any violation of the memorandum would have "the severest consequences" — diplomatic code for military retaliation.

When the Security Council met to respond to Iraq's latest defiance, neither the United States nor any other country raised the prospect of military action. "Consequences were

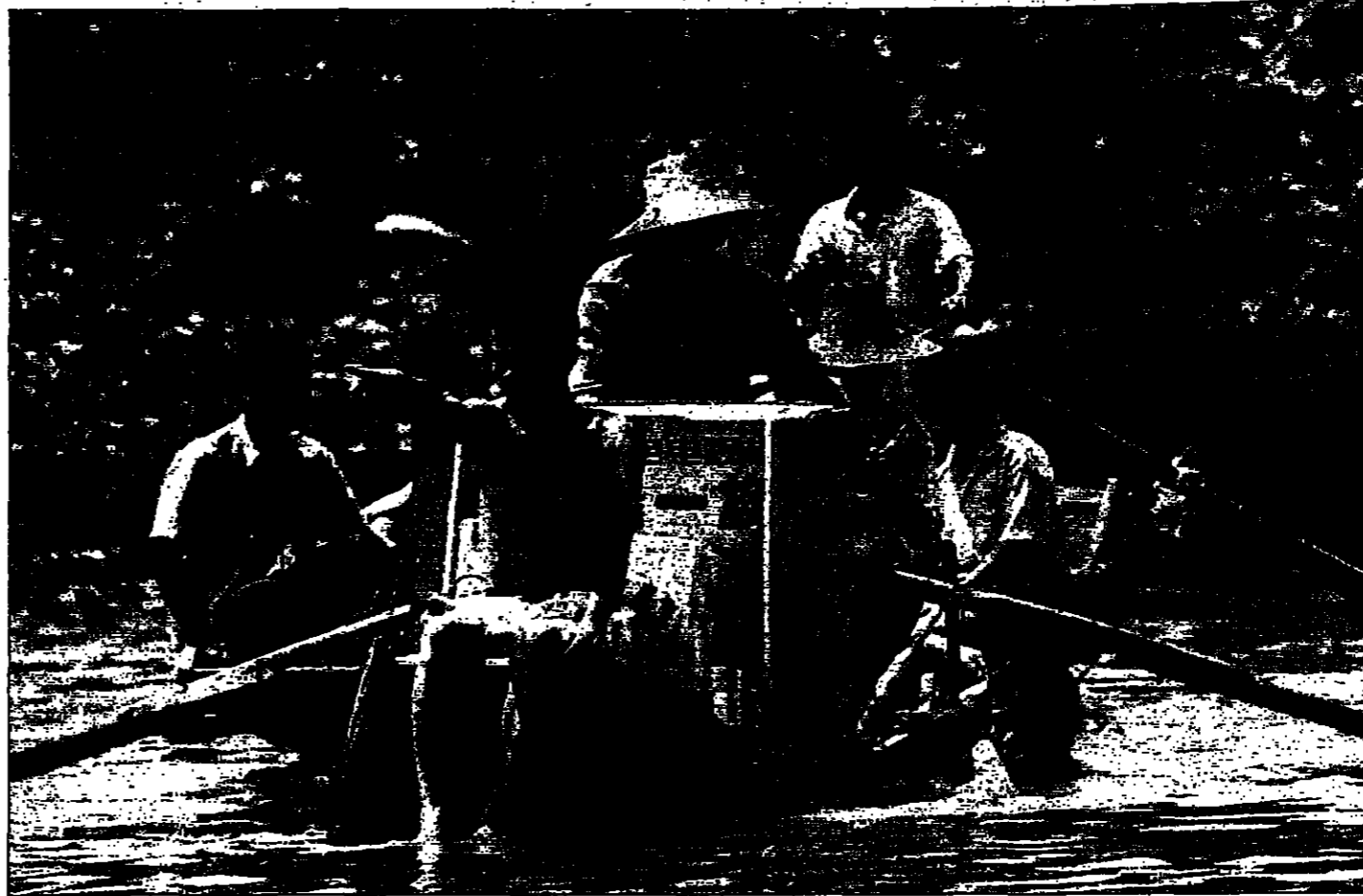
not mentioned," noted one Security-Council ambassador present at the closed-door session.

Yesterday Unscorm announced that it had suspended inspections of new sites but would continue to monitor sites already identified by inspectors.

Only when the Security Council closes the files on biological and chemical and nuclear weapons, as well as ballistic missiles, can the UN oil embargo imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait be lifted.

But Iraq must also fear new discoveries by UN teams. First, the UN found traces of VX nerve gas on missile fragments it had excavated in Iraq, casting doubt on Baghdad's assertions that it had never put the lethal agent into a weapon.

Tests also revealed anthrax on fragments from more excavated missiles than Iraq had admitted to possessing. Iraqi officials said they had simply mixed up the number of missiles filled with anthrax, previously put at five, and those loaded with botulinum toxin, earlier put at 16. But simply reversing the figures raises a host of new questions about the whole production line that Iraq has failed to answer. "Their story is beginning to come undone," one diplomat said.



Residents of a village near Jiujiang, in Jiangxi province, navigate floodwaters after a wall of a Yangtze River dyke collapsed

Peasants fight officials over deliberate floods

FROM JAMES PRINGLE AT JINGJIANG DYKE, JIANLI, CHINA

CHINESE officials evacuating villages south of the Yangtze River and breaching dykes so that downstream cities can be saved from raging floodwaters clashed with villagers, armed with hoes and shovels, who refused to flee their homes at the weekend, a local official said.

About 50,000 people have been evacuated and their villages deliber-

ately flooded over 70 square miles on the south side of the Yangtze in the past two days so that major centres, including Wuhan, the Hubei provincial capital 90 miles downstream which has seven million residents, can be saved.

There was a scuffle in one village at the weekend between the peasant farmers and security personnel called in to evacuate them. "If they don't want to leave, we will force them to move," said the Jianli official. The official Xinhua news agency said that

some people had been reluctant to move. Yet on the 24ft-high Jing Jiang dyke, which runs parallel to the north bank of the Yangtze and is the last barrier to floodwaters spilling out on to the cotton-growing Hubei plain, some people praised the People's Liberation Army, which is co-ordinating the evacuation. One farmer told me: "Where it is most dangerous, there you will find the soldiers."

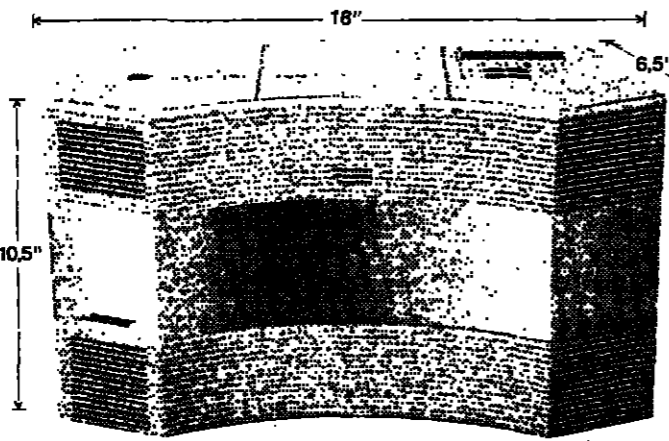
Thousands of farmers and their families are camped out on top of the dyke watching the floodwaters inch

higher — they are now only 3ft from the top. Pools of water forming on the north side of the dyke indicated that moisture was seeping through.

The scene here was just a snapshot of events in Hubei, where 550,000 people have been evacuated, and other downstream provinces where tens of millions are affected. As the upstream levels of the swollen Yangtze fell slightly yesterday, more rain was forecast further east along the 4,000-mile river. The official death toll is more than 2,000.

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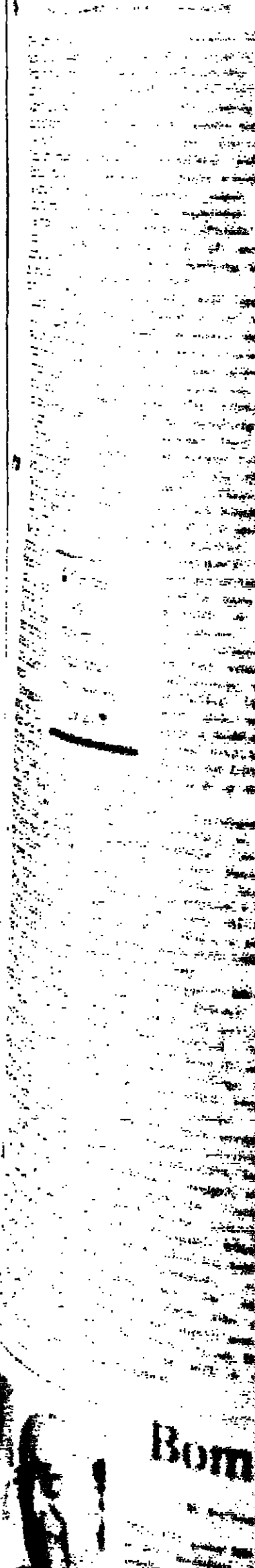
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Embassy

Water truck suspected of harbouring fatal device



Embassies tackle aftermath of attacks



Marines reinforce defences around the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam yesterday, where ten people died

Water truck suspected of harbouring fatal device

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN DAR ES SALAAM

THE bomb that killed ten people in Dar es Salaam on Friday might have been hidden in the US Embassy's water truck, according to initial investigations.

A security guard from a local firm contracted by the Embassy reportedly picked up a signal on his bomb detector and the bomb exploded when he opened the bonnet. The blast caused a crater more than a yard deep and was so powerful that it was heard more than two miles away. Buildings more than a mile away were damaged. "This was such a powerful explosion that there may have been innocent bystanders who will never be accounted for," said an American diplomat in Dar es Salaam.

The scenario was outlined in Tanzanian newspaper reports and is thought to be based on police investigations. An American diplomat touring the bomb scene at the weekend appeared to confirm the emerging picture, although American officials have since been reluctant to discuss the possible sequence of events.

According to reports, the truck, which would supply the Embassy with water during frequent shortages, had been stopped at the main gate by the guardhouse firm's routine check. Behind the American Embassy on a parallel street, the Nigerian Embassy suffered extensive damage and a neighbouring four-storey building has been reduced to rubble. The side street, running past the Embassy's entrance, is strewn with chunks of twisted metal, telephones and broken computers between two rows of blackened burnt cars. Some of the vehicles appeared to have melted in the heat.

Ten people died in the blast and several were injured, including an American woman, the wife of another employee, who was evacuated to London. The solid construction of the building, formerly the Israeli Embassy, may have prevented carnage on the scale of the Kenyan bomb. The Dar es Salaam Embassy, unlike that in Nairobi, is located away from the city centre in a quiet neighbourhood.

Attention in the early stages

of the Dar es Salaam investigation is being focused on a security camera on top of the US Embassy, which may have filmed the events leading up to the blast. The camera was still on top of the four-storey building yesterday, pointing towards the guard house and the Embassy's main gate, where the explosion took place. Embassy officials have confirmed that all security systems were working at the time of the blast.

Investigators will also be looking closely at the water truck itself, the tanker section of which survived unscathed even though it was blown off and hurled against the Embassy's wall. The American team will be searching for clues as to whether they were detonating or remote control devices. A third possibility, thought highly unlikely, is that it was a suicide bombing.

More than 100 US personnel, including marines, FBI

The blast was so powerful it was heard two miles away?

investigators and counter-terrorism experts, have descended on the Tanzanian city. Early yesterday, marines wearing bullet-proof vests installed razor wire and sandbags at both ends of the street leading to the Embassy, while others took up positions on the roof.

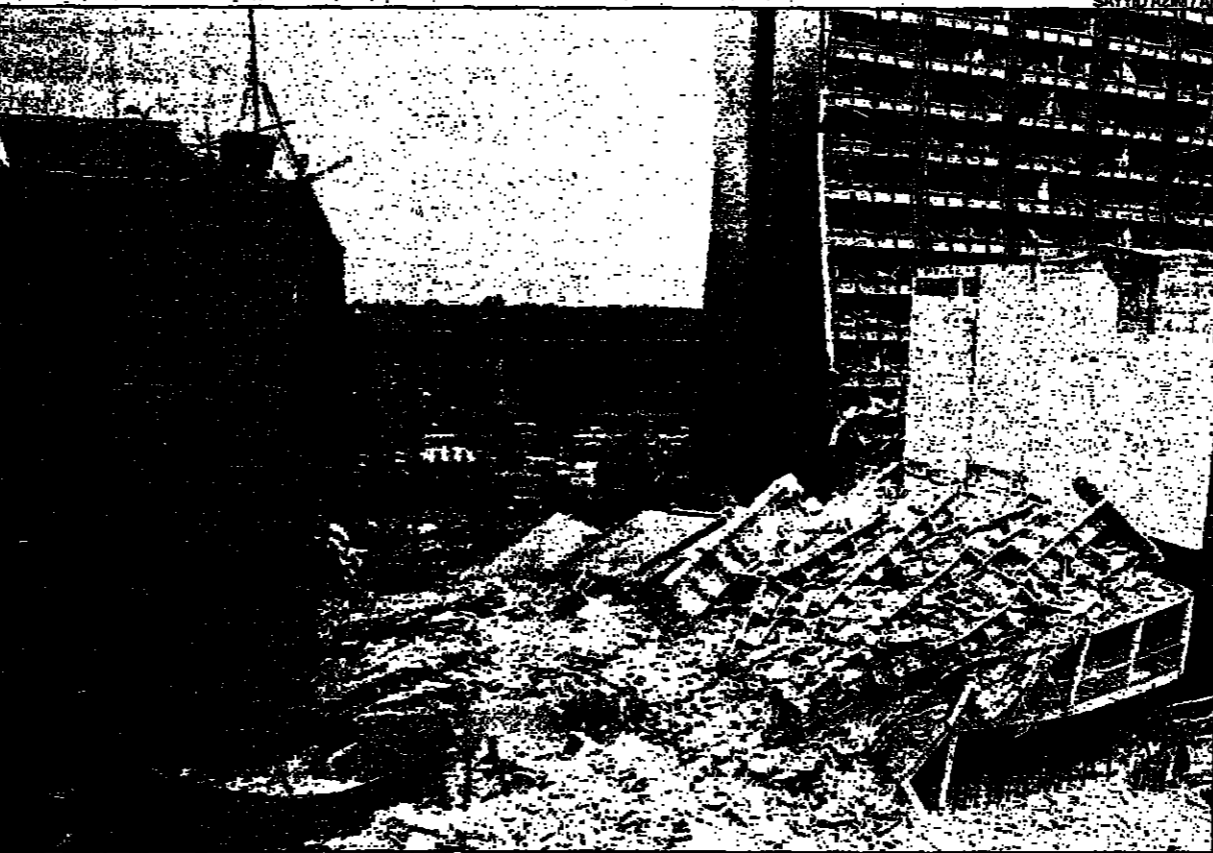
Later, two FBI investigators visited the mortuary at the Muhimbili Medical Centre. One of the victims there is headless and another's face is unrecognisable because it has been so badly burnt. All that remains of a third is a torso and various body parts collected in a plastic bag.

As FBI investigators left the mortuary, accompanied by local policemen and carrying paper bags marked "evidence", they refused to comment on their findings but confirmed they would return today for further checks.

"No one has been arrested and the Tanzanian authorities have not disclosed if they have any evidence to suggest who may be responsible. Visiting the bomb scene yesterday afternoon, President Mkapa of Tanzania called the bombing an "inhuman, evil, despicable" act. He said: "These are people who are enemies of our country and of the United States. To say they didn't wish us well is an understatement."



Gabriel Odinda and his mother with one of the Israelis who rescued them after they were trapped for two days in the rubble of a building near the US Embassy



Wreckage of the building which stood beside the American Embassy, left, and took the brunt of the blast

Mother and son saved in rubble

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE most amazing escape from the carnage emerged from Nairobi where an Israeli team yesterday rescued a mother and her son from an upper floor in a 22-storey building.

Searching floor to floor with sniffer dogs, they discovered a Mrs Odinda and her son Gabriel, 13, in the caretaker's apartment on the twentieth floor. They also found a body on the seventeenth floor.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ofer Loeffler, spokesman for the Israeli rescue team, said the child was in the building at the time of the explosion and his mother had gone to find him.

"They stayed up there because they were afraid to come down," he said. Earlier, the Red Cross said both mother and son were caught in the blast. The two, who were able to walk

from the building with rescue workers, were taken by ambulance to a Nairobi hospital for a check-up.

The Red Cross said ten more people might be in the building, but was unsure of their condition.

Using a 150-ton crane, drills and blowtorches, another Israeli team was trying to free a woman named Rose trapped in a collapsed building adjacent to the embassy. She was trapped near the spot where a man, Gaitara Ngara, was pulled from the rubble on Saturday night after 36 hours.

"Her face is burned, but she's talking," said John Sparrow, of the Red Cross. "During the past two days, she developed a relationship with Gaitara. They talked and kept each other's spirits up."

A second woman was reported to be alive near Rose.

Bombs echo Islamic zeal to convert a continent

COMMENTARY

THE murderous explosions which wrecked the American embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam have not only emphasised that the war between the United States and Islamic fundamentalism is far from over, but has refocused America's relations with black Africa.

While Americans have long seen the Middle East, North Africa and sometimes even Western Europe as areas in which vigilance against such attacks is a permanent necessity, there has been no precedent for such bombings in sub-Saharan Africa.

By the same token, of course, the Nairobi and Dar es Salaam blasts were a triumph for their perpetrators, audacious as they are to project fundamentalist Islam not only as the natural creed for all the Third World's dispossessed, Africans included, but as the sole force capable of striking the "Great Satan" hard. It is clear that America looks to three states

mentalist, and they have seen the post-apartheid era as affording them fresh opportunities for the expansion of their influence.

Not only has Islam launched a considerable effort at proselytising but also for the first time there are a number of Muslims in the Government. Under Aziz Pihad, the Deputy Foreign Minister, South African foreign policy has taken a decidedly pro-Arab turn.

On this occasion, South Africa has staunchly rallied to the Americans' side. Thabo Mbeki, the Deputy President, has denounced the perpetrators of the Nairobi and Dar es Salaam bombs as "terrorists" and South Africa has issued a statement deploring "these senseless acts". It has not gone unnoticed that Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader — also due in South Africa shortly — has quickly echoed these condemnations.

Leading article, page 19

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Stepwise

Bombs play havoc with bride's day

By RICHARD OWEN



Christiane Amanpour and her

THE VIP guest list at what was billed as the "wedding of the year" became another casualty of the embassy bombings in Africa.

Christiane Amanpour, 40, star reporter in global hotspots for CNN, the American news network, and James Rubin, 38, a US State Department spokesman, were married at the weekend outside Rome. It was ironic, said *La Repubblica*, that Ms Amanpour's big day should have been affected by precisely the kind of international drama which first gave her a reputation for cool and

line. The only survivor of a long list of VIPs due to attend the wedding at Bracciano, Italy's gossip columnist noted sadly, was John F. Kennedy Jr.

The chief casualty was Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State, and Mr Rubin's boss. When the relationship became public knowledge last year, Ms Albright wryly — but indulgently — accused him of sleeping with the enemy. She arrived in Rome on Friday for the wedding, but almost immediately returned to Washington to deal with the aftermath of the African bombings.

With Ms Albright off the list, there was no reason for President Scalfaro

Turner (founder and head of CNN), and therefore no Jane Fonda (his wife). The paparazzi began to sag, perking up only slightly when Richard Holbrooke, President Clinton's special envoy in the Balkans, turned up, and only really springing to life to snap away at Mr Kennedy and Carolyn Bessette, his wife.

But the star was Ms Amanpour herself, radiant in an old-fashioned Forties style sleeveless white wedding dress and spectacular pearl earrings, a far cry from her normal tough and unsmiling television image.

The Rubins are honeymooning in Italy, their plans for an exotic African

against Clinton



deliberate flow

ANNUAL SUMMER BREAK

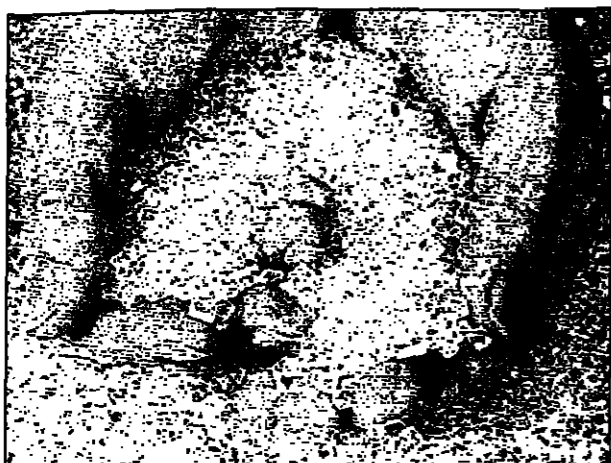


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Russian held over \$180m spree



Uncut Russian diamonds, enough to make 45,000 engagement rings, were part of the alleged plot

A diamond-dealing plot to increase foreign reserves in Moscow fuelled lavish lifestyle, Giles Whittell writes

AS RUSSIA'S new rich head West for their now customary summer holidays, Andrei Kozlenok may be forgiven a moment's self-pity. Such gallivanting could so easily have been his. Indeed, for two delirious years, it was Mr Kozlenok is in jail in Moscow. He was extradited there from Greece last month after an international man-hunt and a prodigious spending spree, allegedly with \$180 million (£109 million) embezzled in grand style from the Russian national treasury.

As a suave young businessman in San Francisco five years ago, Mr Kozlenok lived lavishly and mingled with powerful American politicians, including Al Gore, the Vice-President. He also claimed the distinction of being Russia's one-man rival to the giant De Beers diamond group. The tale of Mr Kozlenok's millions began in 1992 with a bold plan by Yevgeni Bychkov, then head of the Russian Treasury, and an appointee of President Yeltsin, to convert mounds of state-owned uncut diamonds into foreign currency reserves. Mr Bychkov's proposed method was to back out of a deal with De Beers, which controls most of the world's diamond supply; to cut and polish Russia's stones at a Russian-owned facility; and to sell them on the world market in vastly greater numbers than before, if necessary undercutting De Beers.



Andrei Kozlenok talks to Yevgeni Bychkov, right, next to the helicopter he donated to San Francisco police

an attempt to buy official favour, Mr Kozlenok threw a rooftop party on a San Francisco office building to mark the deafening arrival of a Russian military helicopter that he donated to the city's police force. Then the real spending started. Using the proceeds of diamonds and other booty from the Russian Treasury that court papers say was sold illegally, Mr Kozlenok and two Armenian partners bought themselves a sumptuous house each, 15 other residential properties in northern California, three yachts, nine speedboats, a helicopter,

a \$20 million Learjet, a Fabergé egg once owned by Tsar Nicholas II, and the \$4.4 million Lake Tahoe estate used to film much of *The Godfather Part II*. In all, according to an exhaustive study of FBI and other files by *US News and World Report*, Mr Bychkov shipped to his San Francisco protégé enough diamonds for 45,000 engagement rings, as well as crates of silver, other gems, carved ivory and at least 5½ tons of gold coins that were melted down and sold for \$50 million.

A fraction of the uncut diamonds — most of them from eastern Siberia's vast opencast mines — were cut, polished and sold outside the De Beers system in line with the original plan. But most were shipped to Antwerp and sold in their raw state — often, ironically, to dealers with close links to De Beers. Some of the proceeds found their way to numbered Swiss bank accounts; others to Russian ones, with \$400,000 reportedly earmarked to help to publish Mr Yeltsin's autobiography.

Separate investigations by the FBI and the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) ended with Mr Kozlenok fleeing the country in 1995. Soon afterwards, Major Viktor Zhurov, of the Russian Interior Ministry's financial crimes division, suffered a brutal beating for refusing to drop his own investigation into senior Yeltsin officials' links to the affair. In February 1996, Mr Bychkov was arrested and confessed to his role — only to be pardoned three months later. He is now vice-president of a major Moscow bank. Meanwhile, his former colleagues are suing the IRS for \$63 million in frozen assets that they claim belong to the motherland.

Schroder songs of praise set to fall on deaf ears

INSIDE GERMANY



BY ROGER BOYES

Pop, rock, jazz and hip-hop composers have been busily scratching out melodies in support of Gerhard Schröder's bid to unseat Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor. The result has just come out in a compact disc called *Wechselbeat* (*Change of Beat*). A typical song goes: "I'm saying 'Auf Wiedersehen, Goodbye my little fatty, after all those years it's over now.' The band Fishpolice sings: 'Another four years of Kohl, that would be fatal. If you want to change, go out to vote.' Another band sings: 'The SPD is good, again it is giving us courage.'"

With tin-eared supporters like this, Herr Schröder is sure to secure the vote of the political deaf and dumb. The disc and other embarrassing events — intellectuals including Sir Norman Foster, the British architect, and Ben Kingsley, the actor, are due to meet in Berlin later this month to issue a declaration on the need for change — show why scepticism is appropriate when people talk about the head of steam behind Herr Schröder. Steam may drive engines but it can also turn back into water. Fickle stuff, steam.

Opinion polls show that the Social Democratic lead over the Christian Democrats has shrivelled in four months and is now barely 3 or 4 per cent. The election is in seven weeks. Herr Schröder cannot rely on a popular German mood for change. That supposed mood may turn out to be a collection of his advertising copywriters, his admiring friends in the pop world and dinner-party chatterers. Germany is not Britain. Its election system does not lend itself easily to ballot-box change. Modern German leaders do not get swept to power on a wave of enthusiasm. They have to sweat it out at the chess board.

Herr Schröder sees several weak points in the Christian Democratic camp. Many voters line up behind Herr Kohl because they see him as the steady anchor in uncertain times. But Herr Kohl, having won the election, may choose to step down shortly afterwards. He is 68 and may well be waiting for 2000 before handing over to Wolfgang Schäuble, his chosen successor. Herr Schäuble, although scoring quite well in popularity polls, is disliked in Bavaria. He is confined to a wheelchair and the question increasingly surfaces in the

press and in public discussion: is he fit enough to rule Germany? Last week his wife, Ingeborg, expressed doubts. The Christian Democratic Union has deliberately papered over its disagreements about the Kohl succession. Herr Schröder thus displayed his skill as a chess tactician when he told an interviewer that he could, conceivably, form a grand coalition with Volker Rühe, the Christian Democrat Defence Minister, but not with Herr Schäuble. Suddenly voters caught a glimpse of the future: Herr Kohl is not for ever, the Christian Democrats are not a united party and will soon be sucked into a brawl for the leadership. Herr Kohl says he will not take any part in a grand coalition between Social Democrats and Christian Democrats. We should take him at his word.

Yet such a coalition seems likely. If the Christian Democrats emerged slightly ahead after the voting on September 27, they could offer Herr Rühe, a dynamic Atlanticist, as Chancellor, with Herr Schäuble in the background as party chairman. A Social Democrat — probably not Herr Schröder — would be Deputy Chancellor. If the Social Democrats won, then Herr Rühe could be the Deputy Chancellor.

These are logical considerations yet they have not been openly discussed by the Christian Democrats. It is forbidden within the party to brood on the post-Kohl era. As Herr Schröder enters the endgame, a pawn or two ahead, he knows that this blind spot, the taboo of Herr Kohl's political (and even physical) mortality, has to be turned to winning advantage. He has to be ruthless enough to say: the choice is not between Herr Kohl and Herr Schröder but between Herr Kohl's unknown successor and myself. That, I think, is the winning move. But it will be a very close match.

Taleban struggles for control of northern enemy bastion

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS SOUTH ASIA CORRESPONDENT AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

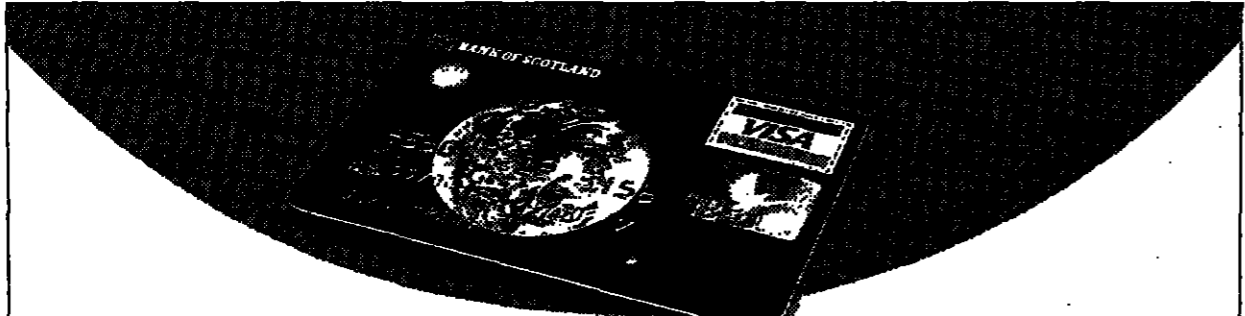
AFGHANISTAN'S northern alliance claimed last night to have pushed its Taleban Islamic opponents out of Mazar-i-Sharif, a day after the religious militia claimed to have captured the north's biggest city. Masood Khalili, the Afghan Am-

bassador to India, who has remained loyal to Burhanuddin Rabbani, the President whom Taleban ousted from Kabul, the capital, two years ago, claimed Mazar-i-Sharif residents "rose and took up arms and fought along with government soldiers" to push out Taleban. "The advance by Taleban into Mazar-i-Sharif marks a crucial advance in its drive to overrun the

entire country. It had seemed certain that its fighters would quickly consolidate control of the city, the headquarters of the alliance supported by Russia, Saudi Arabia and Central Asian states. The Iranian Consulate and 11 diplomats were seized. Intensive street fighting continued yesterday. Taleban claimed it was fully in control despite the insistence

of the opposition groups that the fight was far from over. The largely Pashtun Islamic army launched a new offensive north of Kabul, against the Panjshir Valley stronghold of General Ahmed Shah Massoud, leader of the Tajiks, a warlord of legendary reputation because of his exploits against the occupation forces of the Soviet Union. His heavy guns have been close enough to shell

Kabul, but Taleban claimed he had been pushed back out of range. Taleban forces are within 12 miles of Bagram, site of a Russian-built air base that is the biggest in Afghanistan. General Massoud's men have been unable to use it because of repeated Taleban rocket attacks. This could be the start of a decisive battle for which he has been preparing, aided by Russian-supplied arms.



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WORLD IN BRIEF

Gunmen murder key Karadzic ally

Srdjan Knezevic, commander of an infamous Bosnian Serb wartime paramilitary unit and a postwar police chief, was killed by two masked gunmen in Pale, Sarajevo, sources reported yesterday. He was close to Radovan Karadzic, Serb leader and main war crimes suspect (Tom Walker writes).

Heat kills five children in car

Washington: Five young girls playing in the boot of a car became trapped and died of heat exhaustion, bringing the total of such deaths during the recent heatwave to 11 (Damian Whitworth writes). The mother of two of the girls was inside the house while the group, aged between two and six, played in the back garden in a middle-class area on the edge of West Valley City, Utah. When she came to check them, they were nowhere to be seen, so she called the police. Officers found the dead children in the boot.

Hijack threat seen as hoax

Moscow: A hijack crisis involving 97 passengers and several crew members ended peacefully at Domodedovo airport in Moscow. The anonymous author of a note had demanded \$100,000 (£62,500) and threatened to blow up the aircraft. The note was found as the East Line Tupolev Tu154 was en route to Moscow from the Siberian city of Tyumen. No ransom was paid and neither a bomb nor a perpetrator was found, raising the possibility that the note was a prank. (AFP)

Havel 'breathing unaided'

Prague: President Havel of the Czech Republic, right, is breathing without assistance and his fever has subsided, his doctor said. The health of the 61-year-old former dissident playwright is steadily improving after he had life-saving cardiac electro-shock treatment last week, Dr Ilya Kotic said. Mr Havel's office announced that he has accepted an invitation to go to Haverov on October 3 for a ceremony marking the eighth anniversary of German unification. (AFP)



China hails sole survivor

Beijing: A Chinese soldier thrown high into the air when he stepped on a landmine near China's border with Vietnam survived unscathed thanks to the experimental boots he was wearing, the *People's Daily* said. A Chinese military university is testing the special protective footwear for mine clearers in the southwestern province of Yunnan, the site of thousands of mines left over from China's 1979 border war with Vietnam. (Reuters)

Mother of all mothers dies

Santiago: Leontina Albina, a Chilean listed in *The Guinness Book of Records* as the most prolific living mother, having borne 55 children, including nine sets of triplets and 11 pairs of twins, has died at her home in San Antonio, 55 miles west of here. Señora Albina, who succumbed to a diabetic coma, had more than 100 grandchildren. (AFP)

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Plants on the wild side

Experiments on plants that alter the mind may shed light on witchcraft. **Anjana Ahuja reports**

TO BE a witch, according to folklore, is to consort with the Devil. It is to live in a twilight world, to wear pointed hats and flowing capes, and to glide on broomsticks. Also common to the mythology are magic potions and brews. Historians have long suggested a link between European witchcraft and henbane, a plant in the nightshade family. Henbane, which contains chemicals called alkaloids, has a well-documented effect — in low doses, it induces hallucinations, delirium and a lack of co-ordination (high doses are deadly). Other reported effects include the sensation of flying and enhanced night vision. Could this have given rise to the popular image of nocturnal flying witches?

Several experts came together recently to test henbane on two volunteers. The results appear in a series of TV documentaries called *Sacred Weeds*, which examines the psychoactive (mind-altering) effects of plants that are revered in certain cultures. The first programme featured the fly agaric mushroom, the red fungus with white spots often found in fairytales. It has been speculated that the plant, related to the lethal death-cap mushroom, is a portal to a world of elves and fairies (sadly, no encounters were reported in that experiment). Other plants under study are salvia divinorum (Diviner's Sage) and blue lily.



A fairy ring of truth? The fly agaric mushroom has properties which may explain why people report seeing fairies

Scientists have many reasons to be fascinated by such plants. Anthropologists want to understand the role that they play in certain cultures (for example, the fly agaric is sacred to Siberian tribes). Pharmacologists want to delve into the effect the active substances have on the brain. Psychiatrists want to study how these natural drugs affect behaviour, and whether they

might be useful in the treatment of mental illness. For the henbane trial, two volunteers, Paul and Jim, had their pulse rate, blood pressure, body temperature, sense of balance and eye dilation measured, before being given a low dose. A poison specialist was on hand throughout this rigorously controlled trial — these plants are fatal in the wrong hands. Eye dilation was of interest because witches are supposed to possess exceptional night vision, which could be explained by very dilated pupils. Measuring how balance is affected by the plant might shed light on the flying sensation. A rise in body temperature, which sends blood rushing to the skin surface, might be connected to exotic aspects of witchcraft mythology.

First effects, after half an hour, included raised temperatures and mental confusion. Jim felt his brain was "too big for his head" and felt he was about to lift off. Paul reported his eyes becoming very sensitive to light; Dr Liz Williamson, from the London School of Pharmacy, found his pupils were dilated. She also conducted balance tests — the patterns formed by Jim trying to steady

himself after taking the dose were different from the patterns he made beforehand. Both men slept for a few hours (the plant has a sedative effect); on waking, both reported dreaming but feeling in total control. Paul said he saw vivid landscapes from the air. It is impossible to draw a valid conclusion with only two subjects, but could the men's experiences illuminate some characteristics of witchcraft? Paul Devereux, who had studied the historical use of hallucinogenic plants, thought so.

The ingenious gene

Gene culture □ Sahara sands □ Saving shrimps

THE selfish gene theory of evolution has been one of the most ingenious and productive of the past 30 years. It portrays the genes as the fundamental units upon which natural selection operates, and life as a struggle to ensure that your own genes, and not somebody else's, echo down the generations. Organisms are merely the vehicles which genes use to serve their own purposes.



SCIENCE BRIEFING Nigel Hawkes

Productive as it has been, however, it does require some athletic intellectual contortions to explain social behaviour, such as altruism. Why should people be nice to other people, unless they are close kin? Specifically, how do organisms which carry a particular gene recognise others who have it, and give them a helping hand? Or, more to the present point, how do they recognise those who do not carry it, and do them down?

The question was answered in 1964 by the father of the field, Professor William Hamilton of Oxford University. He proposed that organisms must contain a gene that enables them to recognise others with the same gene, and help them, or those with different genes, and hinder them. Professor Richard Dawkins, also at Oxford, gave this hypothetical gene a name — the "green beard" gene — because to work it would have to produce a recognisable characteristic, such as a green beard. But few persuasive candidates for such a gene have been found and some geneticists regarded the whole idea as a time-wasting abstraction.

In the current issue of *Nature*, Dr Laurent Keller, of the University of Lausanne, and Dr Kenneth Ross, of the University of Geor-

gia, report that they have found a green beard gene in the red fire ant, *Solenopsis invicta*, a native of South America introduced in recent years into the US where it has become a pest. These ants wait for queens to emerge from the pupa and kill those with the "wrong" genes. The doomed queens do not have a green beard, but a distinctive smell which enables the other ants to distinguish them. The scientists found that the queens which were attacked did not carry a particular gene variant, while the attackers invariably did. The aim appears to be to ensure that only queens bearing the right gene variant are allowed to reproduce. The fact that the gene confers a scent is inferred from the fact that some workers involved in the attacks are subsequently attacked in turn by their own nest mates, presumably because some of the queen's scent has rubbed off on them. Other candidates for a green beard gene have been put forward in the past, but this is a clear-cut example that meets all of Professor Hamilton's criteria. The discovery that green beard genes are a fact, rather than simply an elegant theory, encourages Dr Alan Grafen (yet another Oxford geneticist) to wax near-lyrical in a commentary in *Nature*. Not only does it disprove the Gradgrindian view of science, that facts come first, ideas later, he says, but also reminds us that "scientists who feel sad when beautiful hypotheses are slain by ugly facts can also draw comfort when beautiful ideas step boldly into the living world".

Drawing a line in the desert sands

FOR decades, the United Nations has campaigned to control desertification, the apparently inexorable advance of deserts, particularly the Sahara. But ecologists have never really been convinced that the process is happening, and two recently published studies support their scepticism.

How a wriggle can save a shrimp

SHRIMPS, swept downstream by the current towards waiting trout, may appear to be helpless victims. But Swedish zoologists have found they use an ingenious trick to avoid becoming a trout's lunch. By twisting and wriggling, they create eddies which carry the warning scent of the trout upstream, against the current. This gives the shrimp just enough time to dodge the trout.

Both use images from an American satellite and show that, in the past 15 years, the edge of the Sahara has moved rapidly to and fro, depending on rainfall. The movements are as much as 300 kilometres in a few years but in the whole period, "there is no progressive march of the desert," says Dr Sharon Nicholson of Florida State University. But might the land itself be deteriorating, even if it is not becoming desert? It seems not. When the greenness of the images is compared with the amount of rain known to have fallen, there is no decline in the efficiency with which the plants use rain. Both Dr Nicholson and Dr Stephen Prince of the University of Maryland concur in this conclusion. *Science* reports.

Using drops of milk to trace the flow, they found the shrimps were able to wriggle and generate small back-eddies to carry the scent signals upstream for a short distance.

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First effects, after half an hour, included raised temperatures and mental confusion. Jim felt his brain was "too big for his head" and felt he was about to lift off. Paul reported his eyes becoming very sensitive to light; Dr Liz Williamson, from the London School of Pharmacy, found his pupils were dilated. She also conducted balance tests — the patterns formed by Jim trying to steady

himself after taking the dose were different from the patterns he made beforehand. Both men slept for a few hours (the plant has a sedative effect); on waking, both reported dreaming but feeling in total control. Paul said he saw vivid landscapes from the air. It is impossible to draw a valid conclusion with only two subjects, but could the men's experiences illuminate some characteristics of witchcraft? Paul Devereux, who had studied the historical use of hallucinogenic plants, thought so.

However, Dr Diane Purkiss, a historian at Reading University, pointed out that only Paul, who had experimented with henbane before the experiment and had read about witchcraft, reported feeling as though he was flying. She believed his knowledge coloured his experience. Dr Williamson felt Jim's balance patterns — he was continually tipping forward — provided some corroboration for tales of flying. Salvia divinorum, the subject of tonight's programme, had a dramatic effect on its subjects. Used for centuries by the Mazatec Indians, a tribe in Central America, its ac-

tive ingredient, salvinin A, was identified only during the past decade. The plant, related to garden mint, is rumoured to provide access to hidden memories and knowledge. Similar physiological tests as before were carried out on the volunteers, Sean and Daniel. After smoking the plant, Daniel said he could see coloured reflectors everywhere, and people from his past. Sean said he was thinking about all the paintings and films he had seen. He also found humour in everything anyone said. A later experiment showed that chewing the leaves had a stronger effect. Descriptions of surroundings became more detailed, although recordings of brain activity showed no change from normal. Dr Jon Robbins, a pharmacologist at King's College London, says this implies that salvinin A could be operating in the mid-brain, beyond detection by an EEG machine, which records electrical activity on the brain surface. Even though the chemical does not bind to any known brain receptors, it clearly alters perception and had hallucinogenic effects. "That suggests that there are lots of pathways into the brain, and the

Brain is working hard to stay stable." Dr Robbins says, "It gets lots of sensory inputs, and it must screen out most of them in order to direct attention to a particular stimulus. "Drugs seem to perturb this natural balance. So when the signal gets disturbed, we interpret this as a hallucination. In fact, it is a delusion because you are seeing a distorted view of what is there, rather than things that are not there." The idea that drugs play tricks on the brain puts paid to their usual depiction as a gateway to higher consciousness. Perhaps fairies and witches don't exist, after all.

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INTO THIN AIR

Down at heel this autumn



TOP LEFT: trousers, £190, and belt, £170, both by John Rocha, Selfridges (0171-935 9393); V-neck, £69.95, from Karen Millen branches (01622 864 032); shoes, £85.50, by Russell & Bromley, 24/25 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-629 6903)

TOP RIGHT: skirt, £102, and jumper, £90, by Sportmax (0171-287 3434); jacket, £109, by Jigsaw, 126-127 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-491 4484); Mary Janes, £155, by Prada, 43-45 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-235 0008)

BOTTOM LEFT: poloneck, £79, and trousers, £45, both by Kookai, 123d Kensington High Street, W8 (0171-937 4411); loafers, £44.99, by Office, 55 South Molton Street, W1 (0181-838 4447)

BOTTOM RIGHT: shift dress, £351, by Mulligan (made to order: 0171-739 2525); shoes, £45, Revet (0171-739 2525)

MAIN PICTURE: skirt, £127, by Betty Jackson, 311 Brompton Road, SW3 (0171-589 7884); poloneck, £45, by Laura Ashley (0990 622 116); socks, £43, by Camire, from Matches, 34 High Street, Wimbledon Village, SW19 (0171-837 1450); loafers, £40, by Clarks (0990-785 886)

Photographer: JOHN SWANNELL
Stylist: Deborah Brett
Hair: Flavien Abbas at Michaeljohn Management
Make-up: Denise Lilley at The Worn
Model: Marcela at Elite



Forget spike and kitten heels, flat shoes are an essential part of a whole new fashion look, says Style Editor Grace Bradberry

Question: when is a flat shoe impractical? Answer: when it has a sole so paper-thin that you can feel a piece of grit beneath your foot. After the spike heel (last winter's teetering challenge), and the kitten heel (summer's hottest shoe), footwear has taken a step down. The hottest heel for autumn is no heel at all. Pumps, flattes, whatever you want to call them, are part of a new aesthetic that's sweeping in. The ruling colour is grey, lifted by flashes of red and the look is intellectual, even when worn by women with not a lot up top. Alternatively, you can go for decadence, accompanied by slippers in sequined velvet or retro fluffy mules.

Where do these trends come from? Why must we all lose three inches of precious stature? It seems to be one of those trends born of people wondering, "What next?"

That's certainly what's happened with trainers. As soon as the over-forties got into built-up shiny Nike's, it was clearly time to bail out. A year ago, fashion commentators were predicting this trend and investigating all sorts of bizarre surf-related styles. Many of them made the feet smell appalling, but the new direction became clear. Nike came up with a moccasin-style with a little tie at the back, which was much loved by stylists, models et al. Then DKNY came up with a flat surf shoe with a rubber base that became a hit with those who care about wearing the right trainers.

But it wasn't only sports footwear that got that sinking feeling. For summer, the avant-garde Austrian designer Helmut Lang also came over very anti-shoe, using Chinese silk



Jumper, £105, and matching bag, £69, both by Marc Cain, 28 New Bond St, W1 (0171-495 6369); skirt, £50, by Clements Ribeiro for Dorothy Pestons (0171-291 2604); loafers, £169, by Armando Pollini (0171-629 7606)

to associated with terribly female, floaty things, has gone very dour, very Northern European for winter. Her show featured a long black leather coat with wide lapels, worn over a grey wrap maxi coat. The shoes were flat black Mary Janes scattered with gold sequins.

Odd combinations are what autumn/winter is all about — a bit of sassiness with a bit of frivolity, a minimalistic aesthetic with flashes of decoration. At Miu Miu, Miuccia Prada has done sparkling. Mary Janes and teamed them with a space-age trouser suit.

So much for the cat-walk, but what will people really wear? With trousers, the favourites will be variations on the desert boot or hiking shoe, while pointy shoes with water-thin soles and a thin strap are the best way to update a shift-dress (ideally the dress should come below the knee).

To add a dash of colour to what is, after all, a very grey season, try a pair of ruby-red take-me-to-Kansas shoes. Red is definitely the coming season's colour and this is a great way to keep a difficult colour well away from the face.

So much for the mainstream, now for the avant-garde — and Prada's New Toe. Neither round nor pointed — it slopes.

While the moulded rubber sole is *très sportif*, the overall effect is super cool or just plain weird depending on your view point. Either way, it's a good contrast to the strait-laced pleated skirt.

Whether you go for the arch-droopingly low, or a flattened wedge, it's worth buying early — the most popular

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Women and the Isle of Man

Is this the last bastion of sexism or just a different society? Grace Bradberry reports

Saturday morning, in a taxi, just outside Douglas, Isle of Man. The radio crackles and a strident female voice addresses the firm's drivers: "I won't take another booking until whoever made that derogatory remark owns up." Gruff male protests follow, but the telephone operator stands firm. Finally a driver radios in: "Was it what I said about you being over-the-hill?" It wasn't. The start-off continues.

Should we feel sympathy for this woman, the butt of insults and, no doubt, innuendos? Or should we wonder at this last corner of the British Isles where a woman can bring an entire business to a halt for a point of principle, safe in the knowledge that she will keep her job?

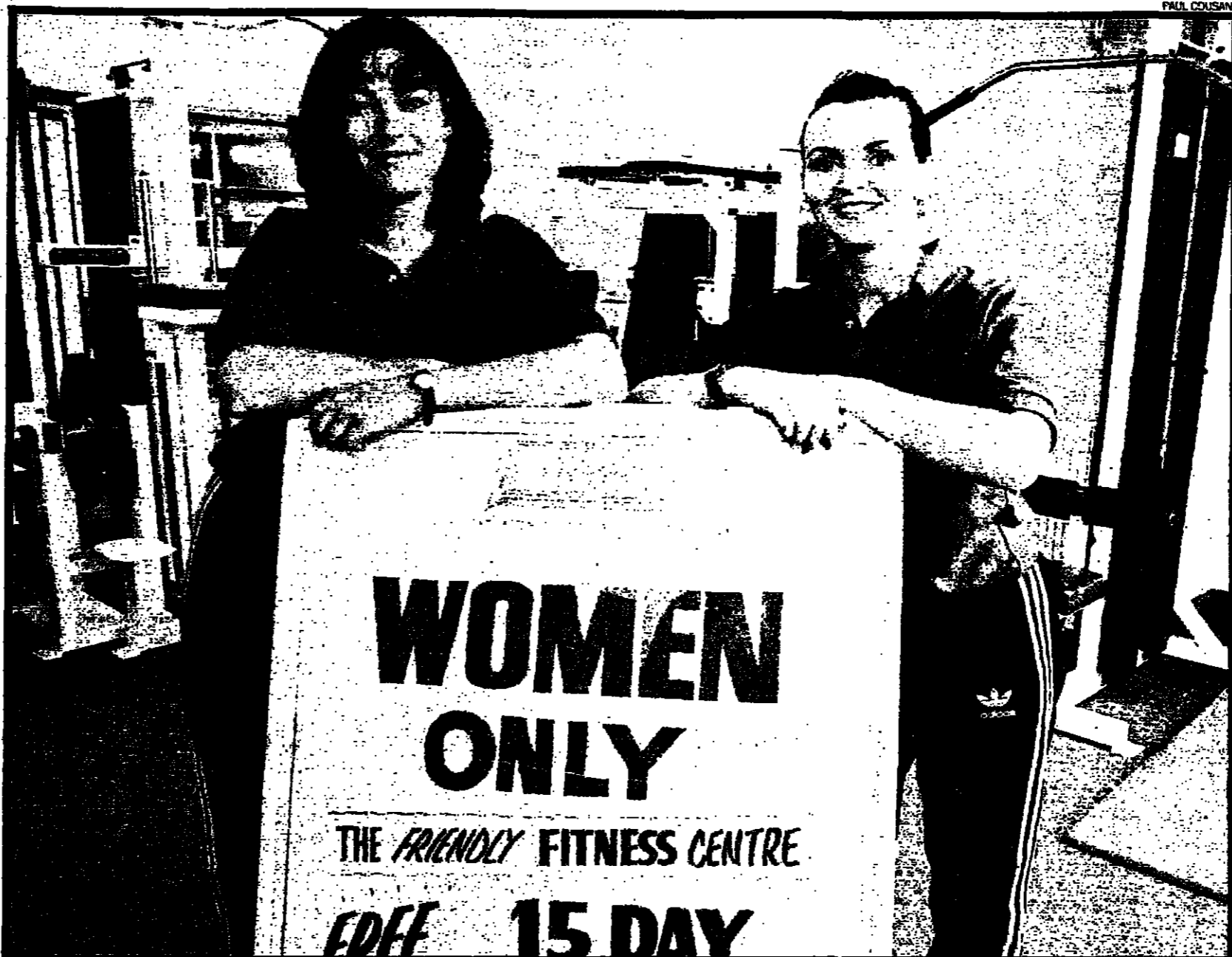
The Isle of Man is a place of stubborn contradictions: at once a traditional holiday resort for Scousers and Dublins, with casinos, horse-drawn trams and boarding houses, and a mysterious tax haven with a flourishing financial sector and 1.1 per cent unemployment. It is a place that legalised homosexuality only in 1992, but where an employer can still advertise for barmaids, women cleaners, and male builders, then pay the women less than the men.

Finally, a Bill has been drafted to give the women of the Isle of Man similar, though not identical, employment rights to those enjoyed by their sisters on the mainland. The Bill, now at draft stage, should become law next year. With the passing of this Bill in sight, you might think the women of the Isle of Man would be rejoicing, but the truth is rather more complex.

Indifference, ignorance, faint embarrassment and covert pleasure were among the responses when the issue of pay equality was raised - and that was just from the women. The most common response from men and women, however, was a bullish defence of the way their island is run.

That the issue has been aired at all is due to a young woman named Angela Moffatt, social legislation officer at the Isle of Man Trades Council. Her father, Bernard Moffatt, is head of the island's branch of the TGWU, and they are known throughout the island as ardent campaigners for workers' rights. The other islanders clearly respect the Moffatts but appear to find them mildly eccentric.

Ms Moffatt has said that the island's backward employment laws make her ashamed to be Manx. When she placed a series of adverts in Manx newspapers inviting women to speak in confidence about their work experiences, she received 60 phone calls. Most would not even give their names. And it's true that if you ask about women's rights as a journalist, you can get the feeling that there is an orchestrated propaganda campaign going on. One company manager gave a glowing account of women's employment prospects on the island before remarking "off the record" that: "There's a definite tendency to pretend that a child abuse, sexism, don't happen here."



Helen Evans, left, and Savina Thomas at the island's first women-only gym. Most prospective members had to seek permission from their husbands to join

Ms Moffatt has said that the island's backward employment laws make her ashamed to be Manx. When she placed a series of adverts in Manx newspapers inviting women to speak in confidence about their work experiences, she received 60 phone calls. Most would not even give their names. And it's true that if you ask about women's rights as a journalist, you can get the feeling that there is an orchestrated propaganda campaign going on.

ple's attitudes, just as race relations legislation has in Britain." If there are no cases, how can the new Bill provide a breakfast for lawyers? "There's always a few rotten apples in every barrel," he concedes, "but there are so very few and the way is not by legislation but by the example of others, the general feeling that discrimination is both wrong and counterproductive."

It's difficult to say who will complain under the new legislation. Ms Moffatt has already helped a group of nursery nurses working in schools to campaign for more pay. None will give their names, again on the ground that "it's a small island". In truth, however, the new legislation, if passed, won't help them because it only guarantees equal pay for the same job, not equal pay for work of equal value.

There is only one man among their number and he is paid the same as the women. Their argument is that their job is badly paid because it is "women's work", and that discrimination will remain legal. Travelling around a council estate in Douglas, however, one does feel that this is "the land that time forgot" — but not in the way you might think. Virtual full employment has given women here the kinds of attitudes that have not existed in Britain since the 1960s.

Elizabeth Bell, 18, working for one of the island's private banks, coolly remarks that she is "just passing through" her present job, waiting for something better to turn up. She is surprised but unconcerned to discover that legally a man could be paid more than her for the same job. So were girls and boys treated differently at her school? "Not really. Well, there was one incident. When we did school plays the boys worked in the stage team, do-

ing props and lighting, and the girls did the costumes. We fought that and won. The head of the stage team, a boy, had us mopping floors for weeks, but in the end we got to do the lighting and a girl did become head of stage."

The anecdote appears to her unshocking, but surely this is the sort of battle that schoolgirls elsewhere in Britain fought and won in the 1970s, early 1980s at the latest? Generally speaking, it seems that the women of the Isle of Man haven't had to fight for their rights — they have simply

arrived courtesy of market forces. In another living room on the same estate, Shaun Corin, 34, recalled how the girls at his school were not encouraged to continue their studies, and generally left at the age of 16 to work in shops. His wife, Marina Corin, 30, works in the office at Woolworths and believes her decent-sized pay rise is due to recruitment problems. The Corins insist they have an equal marriage, but Shaun admits that several of his men friends arrive home to find tea on the table, then head off to the pub.

How equal can the women of the Isle of Man be when this lifestyle remains? Gradually, market forces are also invading the Manxman's home.

A year ago Helen Evans, 24, set up the island's first women-only gym, called Body & Mind. "I'd never seen anything like it," she says. "We found that women were saying: 'I'll have to come back after I've asked my husband, or 'I don't have my own bank account; I'll have to ask my husband for the money'. I'd say the majority of women had to go home and ask if it was okay."

Yet her gym manager, Savina Thomas, 28, married with two children, admits she faced a domestic battle of her own. "Until a couple of years ago, I worked part time in the gym and was able to keep the house clean, do the meals, and look after the children. Then I started working full time and going on courses at weekends. Our roles have changed completely. I got to the gym at 5.30am, and he has to get the children up, make their lunches and take them to school, whereas before, making a cup of tea would have been a big thing for him."

Driving along the harbour is Derek Whittle, automobile engineer, in his 1935 Morgan F2 Super. "Ooh, terrible ain't it?" he says of the legislation, chuckling. Not that he is beyond a remark or two, as becomes clear when he is introduced to Candy Acheson, 54, to Rick Walkeman — musician and former keyboard player of the band Yes — and managing director of A3 Island Marquess, which ministers to the island's thriving party scene. She and Mr Whittle have met before. "Last week I was going along the street in my Morgan and she walked past with her skirt up at sea level. I said, 'What a wonderful view'. She's remembered that."

Does this kind of thing matter? Not to Ms Acheson, who moved to the island from Cheshire ten years ago and takes men generally in her stride. The island has been a revelation to her, she claims. "When I first moved over I was very surprised at how many career opportunities there were. There's a shortage of manpower, and I think some women are probably higher up here than they would be in England."

The Isle of Man is a different sort of society from our own but, ultimately, is that so bad? Those who think it is — notably the women who come over from the mainland to clean the hotels — won't say so. Other women, untroubled by economic concerns, love it for its old-world values and lack of pressure.

On the way to the airport the female taxi driver tells me the story of how she once applied for a job driving a newspaper delivery van and was told: "We don't employ women". "I telephoned the industrial relations people but they said there was nothing I could do. Would she mind giving her name? "Yes I would; it's a small island. Besides, I got another job instead."

Small books, big business

Is nothing sacred? The publishing season set to be not new novels from Julian Barnes, Martin Amis and Ian McEwan, nor the latest royal biography, but a bright, new, shining version of the oldest book of them all. Jamie Byng of Canongate Books in Edinburgh, has had the wile of issuing ten of the most remarkable stories from the Old and New Testaments in slick, early illustrated, pocket-sized editions, each introduced by a well-known writer.

First we had the best-selling *Little Book of Cain* and now we have the little book of Job. Whatever next? How about the little book of God, as told to Craig Brown, who has written *The Little Book of Chaos*, which itself was a parody of *The Little Book of Cain*, which has inspired numerous follow-ups, including *The Little Book of Dreams*, a current best-seller. Small, it seems, is now very big business.

What alarms about the Canongate project is not so much that it will trivialise the Holy Book — this may, in fact, be a smart way of introducing young readers to the Bible — as trivialise the Book as an artefact in its own right. Few doubt that in the past five

years, we have witnessed a collapse of confidence in the very format of the book: the book as something lasting and collectable, something permanent and true. The book, in short, as a thing of beauty, to loan and keep and cherish.

When Wordsworth Editions boldly introduced, in 1992, its series of classics, most booksellers and publishers predicted that the project would fail. Wordsworth was doing nothing that Penguin was not doing better already. Wordsworth's classics, critics suggested, were published without an introduction, scholarly notes or an index; they were printed on cheap paper and had appalling jacket designs. The only thing in their favour was that they were cheap. And cheap, it turned out, was what readers wanted.

Within 18 months of their launch, Wordsworth had sold more than a million copies of 146 "classic" titles, thus drawing Penguin into a debilitating price war, when the house was forced to introduce its own cut-

price classic series. By then the damage was done: Wordsworth had struck a decisive blow against the publishing establishment. Readers were left wondering why all books were not a lot cheaper.

Since then publishers have done everything they can — anything — to interest people in books. And the way to do this, it seems, is to make books, well, less like books and more like something else, something cheap, disposable and throwaway, something more like a magazine.

Take, for instance, Alexander Waugh's *Travelman* venture, launched last month, which plans to sell pocket-sized editions of short stories printed on single sheets of paper that can be folded like maps. Soon, if Waugh has his way, *Travelman* stories will be available from railway platform vending machines, despatched like chocolate bars, or a packet of condoms — and just as longlasting.

Booksellers, as usual, have been pelted by Waugh's witty innovation, as they have been by the threat posed by the Internet, on-line technologies and the possibility that people will soon be able to print their own books at home, downloading material from the Net and thus bypassing an intermediary. Waterstone's has already refused to stock *Travelman* short stories; Waugh has

threatened to stand outside his local branch in Notting Hill, handing out free copies of his foldaway stories. Yet the vogue for mini-books came from within the establishment, when Penguin, celebrated its sixtieth anniversary by issuing 60 small, self-contained editions at 60p each: the *Penguin 60s*. These included *Seven Yorkshire Tales* by James Herriot, *The Black Monk* by Chekhov and *The Pilgrim* by Edgar Allan Poe. The idea was an instant success, and the bestseller lists of summer 1995 were dominated by *Penguin 60s*, including *Marcus Aurelius's* stoic reflections, repackaged and topped the non-fiction lists in July of that year. The popularity of the 60s was such that, in the end, Bookwatch relented to pressure from publishers and introduced two separate lists: one for the 60s and one for standard editions.

As with all good ideas, the *Penguin 60s* have since been prone to endless imperfect replication. Orion Publishing issued its own rival series of mini-editions, including a series of individual pocket-sized editions of the great philosophers, and Bloomsbury celebrated its tenth anniversary . . . by, you guessed it, publishing a series of "Quids".

Will Canongate's pocket-sized Bible stories mark the end of this sequence? One doubts it, not when *Cathy Wood*, a young journalist and writer, has just published a book — in small format, of course — called *The Smallest of all Persons Mentioned in the Records of Littleness*. How much smaller can you go?



Manx men in the male-only bar at the Woodbourne Hotel

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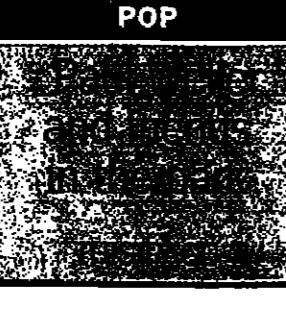
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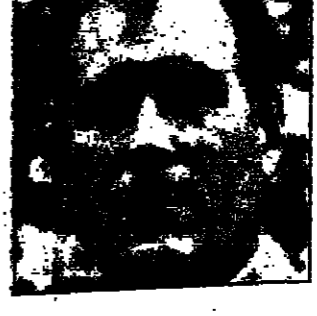
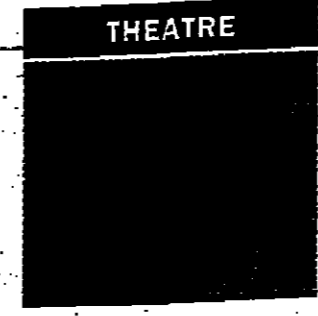
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THE TIMES ARTS



EDINBURGH: Homage to an Italian master sculptor, a controversial play, and a first taste of comedy on the Fringe

A passion for marble

GALLERIES: Rachel Campbell-Johnston savours the incomparable mastery of Gianlorenzo Bernini

Dying was an art in 17th-century Rome. Steely Jesuits preached the need to prepare for a perfect end. Citizens rehearsed their pieties in anticipation. It all seems rather morbid to the modern eye. But it was this preoccupation with death which brought the art of the era to life.

Not only did the wealthy splash out when it came to funerary monuments but, just as the church stressed the interaction between this world and the next, so the sculptors of tombs, too, sought to blur distinctions, to make the dead appear more alive.

The art of the Baroque was nothing if not vivid. To some it was a bit too lifelike. When the starchy English diarist, John Evelyn, visited Rome in 1645 he noted of a female nude by Gianlorenzo Bernini that "so rarely to life was this warm figure done" it had had to be veiled, a cloth covering the parts which "had occasioned a pigmalion Spaniard to be found in a lascivious posture before it".

Bernini was a master of illusion. Marble seemed to warm to flesh in his hands. His art, as any who have seen even a reproduction of his most famous work, the *Ecstasy of Saint Theresa*, will know, combines erotic sensuality with all the drama of miracle. Bernini was a virtuoso so subtle that he could capture the wetness of a lip, the flare of a nostril, the texture of five o'clock shadow in stone.

Sadly, little of this mastery manifests itself in a current Edinburgh exhibition mounted to celebrate the quatercentenary of Bernini's birth. While the Villa Borghese in Rome marks the anniversary splendidly with an exhibition focusing on the astonishingly precocious career of the young Bernini, the Scottish National Gallery has had to content itself with gathering together works from British collections.



The calculating, passionate Bernini — by himself

breadth and range of art practised by Bernini and his contemporaries, most notable among them Alessandro Algardi. Here are architectural drawings and designs, sketches for monuments, fountains, friezes and catalfalques, coins, medals and even processional floats. And there are a wonderful group of portraits of Bernini, too. Executed in an age when it was believed that the mind's construction could be read in the face, viewers will search for physiognomical signs of the ambition of a man so self-assured that, more than 60 years and almost single-handedly, he shaped Baroque Rome: so passionate that when he saw his errant brother Luigi leaving the house of his mistress he sent a servant round to slash open her face; so calculating and contained that he kept the patronage of a succession of seven popes.

This Edinburgh exhibition stands out as a still and scholarly centre amid the circus of the festival. But, as director Timothy Clifford notes, "it cannot hope to provide anything but a limited reflection". To visit it is a bit like attending a funeral from which the coffin is missing. If you want to see Bernini brought to life, you must book a holiday in Rome.

Effigies & Ecstasies is at the National Gallery of Scotland (0131-556 8921) until Sept 20



Marble becoming flesh: Bernini's curvaceous study for the Fontana del Moro in the Piazza Navona in Rome

Fuss about nothing

We've seen the Edinburgh Fringe, that gorgeous parasite, grow 100 times larger than its host; but this is the first year it has opened more than a week before the Festival proper. That explains why I spent part of the weekend doing the conventional things we critics traditionally do a bit later in the summer. I and a tiny band of sensation-seekers sat in a hall with a weird name, watching a play that had been denounced, sight unseen, by Auld Reekie's thought-police.

"Monster Hindley" was the star billing at Fringe. "Monster" was the Daily Record's headline when it heard that Northern Theatre Company was not only staging a play about Britain's favourite hate-object but had spoken to her about it over the phone. It went on to quote the leader of the Tory group on Edinburgh Council, who, doubtless glad that someone knew that he and his group actually existed, said a play that "glorified" Myra Hindley should be withdrawn. An editorial added that, though the "annual congregation of Festival pho-nies" would think it daring, "true theatregoers will stay away".

Did the dribble of critics at the Gilded Balloon witness some Genet-style Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the Blessed Myra? Hardly. What Diane Dubois has written is a desperately earnest, terminally awkward play about a group of Hull graduates, one of whom is commissioned to prepare a TV programme about Hindley. "Thoughtful," was Hindley's own reported comments on the piece, about as nice as one could get.

As Kirsty Applegarth's researches her programme, throwing out the odd interesting fact in the process, her friends succumb to melodramatic disasters, including deaths by drug overdose and gun in a disco suit and the devil plays *Love, Love Me Do* on a mouth organ. The sketches are interrupted by members of the cast stepping out of character to apologise for the lack of costumes or explain bits of safety procedure, acting blithely as if they were in a world that made sense. Quite, quite mad, but quite, quite brilliant.

HEFTIE JUDAH

The new masters of Surrealism

I HAVE never been exactly sure of what the age of Aquarius was. If, by any chance, it means "an era in which suddenly one man telling jokes in front of a microphone begins to look curiously hackneyed; now we shall see the emergence of a master race of surreal sketch outfits who will take over the known comedy world" I can confirm that it is indeed dawdling.

Unsnighly patches of conflict are flaring up around the Pleasance as television researchers and minor journalists pinch and pummel each other over who gets to be the first to proclaim Hitchcock's Half Hour as their new comedy love in front of a live public. *Psycho Vertigo Disco* is a show so crammed with ideas that they leave 30 seconds in which nothing happens for the audience to breath and attempt to retrieve their brains. Armed with a prop box full of kitchen hardware — Noel Gallagher's eyebrows made out of a broom head, Rolf Harris's face wrought from a couple of scouring pads — they whistle through enough material to keep most comedians going for a series.

While the references are bang up to date there is something charmingly old fashioned about both their benign brand of humour and the precision of their sketches. They dance divinely, out-mime Marceau, sing like nightingales and prove an admirable pair of mimics. For now, and until they are destroyed by the publicity, these are the new young Gods of comedy.

Hotly tipped also have been Noel Fielding and Julian Barratt's *The Mighty Boosh* in which, roughly speaking, two zookeepers get lost in a forest. While the Hitchcocks are simply disorientating, the *Boosh* has an unmistakably psychedelic edge to it; the characters get sucked from one sketch to another by the abyss within someone's eyes, the voices of the forest use their hypnotic powers to create disturbed 1960s crooners and people pop up saying things like "catch me, I'm a dream". The smiles run thick and rich; "I'll roll you up like a blanket full of scissors, you milky little wasp"; and the insults are strictly at primary school level. This deliberate daftness coupled with a (sometimes infuriatingly) casual presentation gives *The Mighty Boosh* the air of a rather superior sixth form revue. With a spot of tinkering, it could be very exciting indeed.

If Fielding and Barratt are the little

brothers of the bunch, then Universal Grinding Wheel are wicked uncles. They are treating the Fringe to a full-frontal assault: "I don't know if you're familiar with the voodoo phenomenon of *Zombic, Inc.*" One imagines this to be what authors' dreams look like; Graham Greene receives a Philippines populated by spies in giant nipples; elsewhere highwaymen dance, a Scottish hospital is taken over by an alien in a disco suit and the devil plays *Love, Love Me Do* on a mouth organ. The sketches are interrupted by members of the cast stepping out of character to apologise for the lack of costumes or explain bits of safety procedure, acting blithely as if they were in a world that made sense. Quite, quite mad, but quite, quite brilliant.

Actually, what they were really good at was deploying their instruments to create a remarkably versatile range of sounds and moods for just three musicians (Fast also juggled keyboards, harmonica and horns, and they were aided, by some judicious use of tapes and loops). Beginning with the heavy rock-rap explosion of *Bombin' The L*, they kept the songs short and to the point, mixing rap, blues, rock, jazz, soul and hip hop flavourings without ever settling on one groove for too long.

As well as old favourites, including a high-rolling *Scobey Snacks* and a splendidly eccentric version of *The Fun Lovin' Criminal*, the set incorporated a high percentage of new songs ranging from a Bo Diddley-ish stomper called *Kansari Bodega* to the unusually reflective *We Are All Very Worried About You*, which prompted a gorgeously sad guitar solo by Huey. Unfortunately Huey's distinctive, rapid-fire vocals, which he delivered with the languid authority of a man who does not expect to talk too loud to be heard, were often lost amid an indistinct, bass-heavy sound mix. The wigs

came off, but the fun carried on, and during *Sugar*, a song about Huey's love for his pit-bull dog, they were joined by a dancer called Leo in a baggy white suit. Leo sprayed the front rows with champagne and tipped what was left down Huey's throat while the latter carried on soloing without missing a beat. So good, there ought to be a law against it.

DAVID SINCLAIR

Sunshine on a soulful day

Optimistically titled "British Summer Time", the promoters' faith in the weather was rewarded when Paul Weller's way in the park turned out to be one of the hottest afternoons of the year. No doubt the sunshine, coupled with a 12.30 kick-off in a beautiful East London location, attracted hundreds of casual observers as well as old Jam fans and the usual Weller devotees.

However, anyone hoping for a late-1970s nostalgia fix had to get it from Ian Dury and the Blockheads, rather than Weller himself. Despite his battle against cancer, Dury was as charismatic as ever — smiling broadly as he encouraged everyone to clap along to *Reasons To Be Cheerful Part 3*, adding extra poignancy to the opening blues of *Sweet Gene Vincent* and getting half the park dancing to *Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick*.

Finley Quay was clearly moved enough by Dury's set to wander on stage mid-way through it and cry a triumphant, "trier!" Or perhaps he'd just got his times wrong. Whatever, his laidback grooves were perfectly suited to the early evening sunshine, and he danced around, eyes half-closed, nodding his appreciation. In among his own songs was a reggae version of Dan Penn's *The Dark End Of The Street* and Bob Marley's *Crazy Baldheads*.

Quaye was followed onstage by another former boy from Burnage — Noel Gallagher. However, despite rumours of a solo slot, his appearance was confined to the brief MC role of introducing Weller. Barely pausing to acknowledge the crowd, Weller began in typically frenetic style, briefly slowing down three songs in for *Friday Street*. Shortly after making what appeared to be a sarcastic remark about the sales figures of last year's *Heavy Soul* album, Weller turned the tide track into the smouldering, Neil Young-style centrepiece of his set. Three ballads, which Weller delivered sitting down, provided a mid-set interlude, then it was back to the intense pace with a venomous *Changing Man*.

Noel Gallagher joined them for the encore. Dr. John's *Walk On Gilded Splinters*, rather than one of the new songs that he and Weller have reportedly recorded together. Then Weller went to the piano for a particularly soulful *Broken Stones*, which received such a rapturous response that he broke into a grin almost as wide as Gallagher's and clapped the crowd in return.

ANN SCANLON

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Sussex man in love

The writer and director William Nicholson has romance on his mind. Daniel Rosenthal reports

With his new play, *Katherine Howard*, William Nicholson joins an illustrious company. Shakespeare, Charles Laughton, Robert Bolt, Richard Burton and even the *Corby* team have all contributed to our collective image of Henry VIII. The Tudor monarch has appeared in more biopics and plays than he had wives, but none of the earlier dramas chose, as Nicholson has done, to focus on Henry as part of a tragic love triangle, or to use his doomed fifth spouse as a vehicle for what the writer calls "fundamental questions, like 'How important is sex to love?'"

The facts of the relationship soon to be played out in Chichester by Richard Griffiths's Henry and Emilia Fox's Katherine are not in dispute: after his short, unconsummated union with Anne of Cleves ended in divorce, the King married Katherine in 1541. The following year he ordered her execution for presumed adultery with a young courier, Thomas Culpeper. In this slim source, Nicholson detected a love story that could be fleshed

out with "the psychological guesswork" that has proved so convincing in his finest factually based work: *Shadowlands*, centring on the romance between C.S. Lewis and Joy Gresham, and *Life Story*, the BBC film chronicling the discovery of DNA. "I was fascinated by how little is known about Katherine," he says. "There are no portraits. Historians aren't even sure if she was 16, 17 or 18 when she married. We do, however, have detailed contemporary records of the almost Stalinist show trial at which the state demonised her to justify the execution. "She has been patronised and pitted by history as a foolish, sexually wanton woman who got what she deserved. But it was obvious to me that this could not have been the case. Katherine had seen her first cousin, Anne Boleyn, executed for adultery — it's inconceivable that she would risk the same fate." While he has already tackled a comparable



Nicholson at home: The release on Friday of *Firelight* marks his debut as a film director

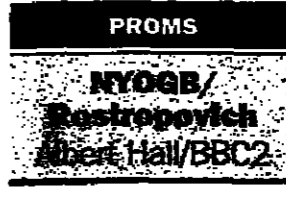
helped that I had learnt so much about directing at the Beeb, and been in an awful lot of cutting rooms. What was new with *Firelight* was the intense excitement of actors producing ideas I'd never imagined when I wrote the script." He acknowledges that "Firelight is very heart-on-sleeve and about half the human race would find it too corny. It's a very complex piece, dealing with love, surrogacy, euthanasia. Mostly it's a terrific yarn; my unkind friends call it *The Full Brontë*." At 50, he has ruled himself out of directing the larger-scale, internationally shot movies which producers are constantly asking him to write, such as the biopic *Mandela*, scheduled to start shooting in South Africa in November. "I don't regret missing out on directing 'non-English stories like those, because I simply don't want to leave home." He has never been blocked

A triptych of earthly delights

A brave man he, who tackles Bosch. For many years Michael Berkeley has been haunted by the musical potential of Hieronymus Bosch's great triptych, *The Garden of Earthly Delights*. When it was time for a BBC commission and his first major orchestral work, the idea became irresistible; and the Proms witnessed its world premiere on Saturday.

Berkeley does, indeed, stride in where angels fear to tread. But he wisely disavows any programmatic intent, preferring to express his own responses to Bosch's surreal fantasy of innocence, experience and retribution. Luckily for the listener, though, Berkeley is unable to resist the odd illustrative detail: a football rattle recreates a Machiavellian ratchet; the image of a creature being tortured on a harp is taken somewhat literally. But, unlike that of Bosch, Berkeley's triptych — in one continuous 20-minute movement — exists in time. So he can shift ideas from one "wing" to another: neither innocence nor ignorance is always bliss. And with a canvas as vast as the Albert Hall and a top-of-the-range painter like the National Youth Orchestra, he can afford to indulge in some striking spatial effects too.

So, a broadly conceived harmonic structure which moves, via a simple four-note motif from concord to discord, is nudged by the presence of three young solo players positioned in loggia boxes round



the Albert Hall. Violin, soprano saxophone and trombone act as tempters, pushing the action on from its lush opening, through a scherzo-like section with multiple violent climax points, and on to the final grandiose brass chords of judgment.

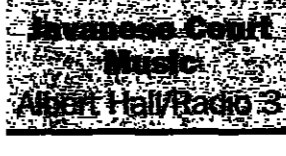
Secret Garden, Berkeley's symphonic sketch for this work, heard at the Barbican in May, was a sophisticated patterning of ideas whose imaginative energy never really took off. Here, though, Berkeley goes at it from the gut — and that's where it hits the listener. With Rostropovich conducting, this was an irresistible opportunity to programme more Britten and Shostakovich. The lion's roar of Berkeley's special cutes drum and the rolling of his thunder-sheet didn't figure, but every other member of the NYO took with alacrity to Rostropovich's majestic reading of *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. Their Shostakovich Tenth Symphony had the sort of raw immediacy, unafraid to bare the innermost reaches of the composer's nerve system, which one would expect from this passionately dedicated young band of musicians.

HILARY FINCH

Chiming charm

There's only one difficulty in sitting down to write a review after a late-night concert of gamelan music: the sounds of the traditional Indonesian percussion orchestra are hypnotic and deeply calming, making even the need to produce 400 words seem an illusion. There was a special atmosphere here, created partly by the Albert Hall itself, its red and gold mirroring the colours of the instruments in the dimmed lighting, and partly by the large number of Prommers who, like the players, sat cross-legged throughout.

Even though Western-style concerts are not part of the gamelan tradition, the music has gained such popularity here that it is increasingly heard in our concert halls. This concert featured a special collaboration between London's South Bank Gamelan Players and dancers and musicians from STSI, the academy of traditional performing arts in Surakarta whose head, Rahayu Supanggah, directed the Prom. Many aspects of STSI's work were represented here, for it is concerned both with preserving tradition and renewing it; the academy also acts as a magnet for the Western musicians and composers who, like great figures from Debussy to Britten, have been enthralled by the gamelan's mysterious timpanabulation. But whichever strand a particular piece of music came



from, the basic sound was constant, a mixture of low drums and high chimes coloured by voices, the two-string fiddle and bamboo flute.

Songs and dances from the British composer Alec Roth's music to *The Tempest* opened the concert. The dusky, haunting timbres of his work suggested that Java might well have been Prospero's enchanted island, and choreography by Kenneth Tharp brought the story to life. As Ariel, Didik Bambang Wahyudi cast an athletic spell, and he was joined by four graceful female spirits in a gentle setting of *Full Fathom Five*. Richly embroidered costumes enhanced the spectacle in several traditional dances, but the purely instrumental pieces made the strongest impact. The chant-like singing and swirling flute in Supanggah's own *Kartini*, a tribute to the pioneer of women's emancipation in Indonesia, had a certain spirituality, and other highlights were the sensual *Singa Tirta* and light-hearted *Godri*. All the elements were combined in the sacred dance *Srimpi Jayaningih*, which closed the concert as petals were strewn on the stage.

JOHN ALLISON

This week in THE TIMES



MUSIC
Leonard Slatkin conducts Evelyn Glennie and Elgar at the BBC Proms
CONCERT: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



THEATRE
Tracy Ann Oberman and Gary Richards stash *Loat* at the Vaudeville
OPENS: Wednesday
REVIEW: Friday



JAZZ
Ann Hampton Callaway and sister Liz in *Sibling Revery* at the Donmar
OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday



FILM
Holy catsuit: Uma Thurman and Ralph Fiennes as *The Avengers*?
RELEASED: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday

PLUS: The Megadog Beach Festival hits Cornwall next weekend

AT THE halfway point of Sir Simon Rattle's *Beethoven* series with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra comes the mighty Fifth. Salzburg audiences, which will hear the cycle next, had better hold on to their seats. Hilary Finch writes.

Good and Rattled

Symphony Hall acoustics. So for the Fifth: first that shortened pause which makes one chinking of the first ricochet off the next; and then the fierce momentum, generated by those incisive string entries and truncated horn calls, which allow no pause for breath until the ever-amazing oboe cadenza, solitary in the movement's summing-up. Rattle made the very most, too, of that moment in the second movement when the music gropes its way, mysteriously and chromatically, back to the original theme — one of many uniquely Beethovenian visions of another, distant world.

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50 years on, the wages of slave labour

Michael Pinto-Duschinsky on the Holocaust survivors' split

An intense argument is dividing Britain's community of survivors of the Nazi Holocaust. The dispute is over strategies for pursuing financial claims related to their treatment in the Second World War. One side favours public protest and legal threat; the other defends the age-old approach of Jewish organisations: private negotiation and compromise.

The immediate issue is the question of compensation from German companies which employed Jewish slave labourers. These include Volkswagen, Daimler-Benz and Siemens. Other claims concern insurance companies and banks (Deutsche Bank and Dresdner Bank) which financed and benefited from many of Hitler's operations. All these companies have major British interests.

It may seem strange that, 53 years after the war, this controversy has resurfaced. The former slaves, who tried to bury memories of the past in order to rebuild their careers and raise their families, now face old age. This has brought renewed anguish and the realisation that this may be their last chance. Quite apart from the money, the fact that they are not entitled to payment for their slave labour while their former overseers (including SS officers) receive pensions leaves many with feelings of outrage and injustice.

The survivors leading the campaign for compensation have received support from younger Jewish professionals such as the lawyer Anthony Julius. This is part of a shift in Anglo-Jewish attitudes. Traditionally, Jews — like other minorities — felt that the price of social acceptance was outward conformity. Yet Britain is now a pluralist nation. While most official Jewish institutions cling to the traditional line of not "making waves", the approach is beginning to lose its logic.

The activists among the Holocaust survivors are at loggerheads with the Jewish Claims Conference, a worldwide organisation which includes representatives of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Since the early 1950s, the Claims Conference has negotiated with the German Government and occasionally with German companies. At times it has been successful. But it has almost always negotiated in private, shying away from open confrontation. In recent years it has concentrated on obtaining compensation for Jewish victims of the Nazis living in the former Soviet bloc.

Its critics argue that the Claims Conference has become addicted to the inside track by its aversion to protest. It has made some poor deals. When Daimler-Benz and Volkswagen refused to compensate their former Jewish slaves, the Claims Conference agreed instead to accept derisory offers of £3.6 million and £1 million for Jewish institutions such as old people's homes.

Tough tactics are more effective than caution

help, he obtained financial backing from an anonymous German donor to pay the heavy legal bills. After seven years Munchhausen finally succeeded in obtaining compensation of £7,000 for one woman who had been a slave labourer in Bremen in 1944. This limited victory paved the way for a campaign in Nuremberg which resulted in payments by the Dietl company to 250 Jewish women.

Munchhausen then threatened legal action against Volkswagen unless it agreed by July 31, 1998 to compensate its former Jewish workers, which it previously had resolutely refused to do. Within three weeks, VW complied.

At the end of July, Deutsche Bank issued a statement acknowledging moral (but, significantly, not legal) responsibility for "the darkest chapter in its history". Meanwhile, the German Government has taken modest steps to restrict pension rights of German war criminals. Legal actions against VW and other German corporations are being prepared in the US. The Claims Conference finally decided in July that it, too, will now assist Jewish slave labourers in their negotiations with the German corporations.

The settlements so far agreed have been for small sums and for limited groups. The corporations doggedly refuse to accept legal responsibility; the Federal Government does not accept liability to pay for slave labour under the Nazi regime either. This could change if a coalition of Social Democrats and Greens wins power next month.

But, confrontational tactics are proving more effective than caution. If younger generations of British Jews, together with vociferous groups within Germany, are able to campaign effectively for justice for the survivors of the Nazi regime, there is more hope that a pluralist, democratic Europe may emerge after all.

The United States Constitution makes it hard for a President to be impeached, but not impossible

Clinton, crimes and misdemeanours

One would scarcely think it from watching television, particularly US television, but there are historic and constitutional issues in the swirl of accusations and counter-accusations against President Clinton. This is not merely a matter of "bimbo eruptions" or of Monica Lewinsky. The constitutional issues were foreseen by the founding fathers of the United States, and have recurred in American history. Indeed they relate back to even earlier British history, and to the abuse of proceedings for attainder, impeachment and treason for political purposes in the 16th and 17th centuries.

One should start in 1787, just before the French revolution, with the constitutional convention in Philadelphia. Article II, Section 4 of the Constitution of the United States is part of the original Constitution and has not been added as an amendment to it. It says that "The President, Vice-President and all civil officers of the United States shall be removed from office on impeachment for and conviction of treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanours".

The procedure was laid down. Article I, Section 2 says that "The House of Representatives shall have the sole power of impeachment", and Section 3 says that "The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments... when the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present".

The members of the constitutional convention did not want to make it all easy to use state prosecution for political purposes. They laid down that "No Bill of Attainder shall be passed"; they defined treason very narrowly as consisting only in "levying war against the United States or adhering to their enemies"; they intro-

duced a double safety catch into the impeachment procedure, requiring a majority in the House of Representatives to bring the charge and a two-thirds majority in the Senate to convict. They confined impeachment to treason, thus narrowly defined, bribery or "other high crimes or misdemeanours". No President has ever been convicted, though President Nixon resigned in 1974 rather than face impeachment.

The phrase "high crimes and misdemeanours" obviously needs further definition. In 1787, the outstanding authority on the English common law, which is the basis of the American legal system, was William Blackstone's *Commentaries on the Laws of England*, published in 1765-69. Old-fashioned American lawyers still have a leather-bound set of Blackstone in the office bookcase. There are three helpful sentences in Blackstone: "A crime, or misdemeanour, is an act committed, or omitted, in violation of a public law, either forbidding or commanding it". "This general definition comprehends both crimes and misdemeanours, which, properly speaking, are mere synonymous terms". "Words spoken only to a high misdemeanour, and no treason". This last sentence is particularly useful; Blackstone sees treasonable language as a "high misdemeanour" presumably because it is a crime which involves the State.

We can see from this how far the United States still is from a successful impeachment of President Clinton. The Special Prosecutor, Kenneth Starr, has to report to the House of Representatives. The House will then have to decide that any alleged offences are proven, and are of sufficient gravity to justify impeachment. The impeachment would then pass to the Senate, which would have to convict by a two-thirds majority.

The Lewinsky allegations, in partic-

ular, do not seem to qualify by themselves as "high crimes and misdemeanours".

Of course, a President ought not to break the law; he has a particular responsibility to uphold it. But suppose the worst: that Bill Clinton did have an affair with Monica Lewinsky, that he did lie about it on oath, and that he did coach her to do so as well. Would the Chief Justice advise the Senate, as a point of legal construction, that this was a "high crime"? If anything, the Lewinsky affair looks like a low crime, perhaps useful in demonstrating a pattern of conduct, but not impeachable by itself.

There are, however, two areas in which the President is more vulnerable. It has been alleged, both in respect of his period as Governor of Arkansas and as President of the United States, that Bill Clinton has repeatedly broken the laws on political fundraising. The evidence seems to be strong, and it goes back over a period of 20 years. In particular, there are the allegations that as President he knowingly took unlawful money from Chinese sources. The words of the Constitution refer to "bribery"; in deciding whether offences against the statutes on fundraising constitute "high crimes", the Senate would need to take into account the issue of bribery. To raise political funds by holding out an expectation of unusual political favours does constitute "bribery". Of course, many senators would be asking themselves whether their own hands were clean in this respect. Bill Clinton has also been repeatedly accused of interfering with the course of justice — in the case of the FBI files, in the false accusations against the staff of the White House travel office, in responding to the Starr investigation, and in numerous earlier cases in Arkansas. As Governor, he is alleged to have used the law and the police to persecute his enemies and to protect his friends, as in his pardon of Dan Lasater, his drug-

William Rees-Mogg

gain, one should go back to the Constitution. Article II, Section 3 lists the duties of the President. It includes the sentence "He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed". The President has a duty to see that the laws are executed, and therefore a unique capacity to obstruct them.

Strong published evidence suggests that President Clinton is impeachable both on bribery and on obstruction of justice. But he will probably never be impeached because it is constitutionally so difficult to do, because the Republicans do not want to put Al Gore in the White House, but above all because the President has been so ruthless in his own defence, using deniable associates to shred documents and threaten and suborn witnesses. The President will not be impeached for obstruction of justice, if only because he has obstructed justice so skillfully. It is the impeachment of history, rather than of the US Congress, which he has most to fear.

dealing, bond-selling cronies. If obstruction of justice could be proved against the President, would that fall within the terms of the Constitution as a ground for impeachment?

There are two arguments that suggest that it would, one from the Constitution itself and one from precedent. The precedent is that of President Nixon. The impeachable offence in Watergate was not the burglary itself but the obstruction of justice involved in the cover-up. The probability that he would be successfully impeached for this was what forced Nixon to resign. I doubt whether the obstruction of justice implicit in Monica Lewinsky's alleged perjury about her relationship with Clinton is a sufficient ground; but if Kenneth Starr does show a broader pattern of obstruction of justice, that would be ground for impeachment.

Non-members welcome

Outsiders are now an essential ingredient of good government, says Peter Riddell



The House of Commons closed shop is being challenged, and not before time. The appointment of industrialists such as David Simon, David Sainsbury and Gus Macdonald as ministers is an admission that the qualities required to become an MP and to succeed in the legislature are not the same as those needed for the executive — and that not enough suitable talent is available in the Commons at present. Complaints about cronyism and lack of democratic accountability miss the point. The arrival of such outsiders is welcome.

Politics has become an increasingly closed world. The ambitious become involved in their early 20s and take jobs aimed at furthering their political careers. They are willing to make the single-minded commitment to local council work and fighting a hopeless seat that is usually required before becoming an MP. This has discouraged those wanting to enter politics in their forties. Successful executives know that their careers may suffer if they want time off for political activity, so the boundaries between politics and outside have become increasingly tightly drawn.

Fewer new MPs therefore have any real experience of the world outside politics. Half the Tory MPs elected in May 1997 had been special advisers to ministers or had worked for the Party, though the very scale of the Labour majority brought in many new MPs who had not been lifetime politicians. There is now a premium on local roots and contacts and fewer new MPs have national or international experience.

Politics, of course, requires its own special techniques and knowledge, and many former advisers make excellent ministers, especially when

they have also had some outside experience. But the pool from which ministers are picked has become narrower. The demands on ministers have anyway increased since, following the comprehensive spending review, they are expected to deliver specific performance targets. Few have the background for such a role. In the past, a few outsiders have been appointed as ministers — and usually, also as peers — such as Lords Woolton, Chalfant and Young of Craffham, but the scale is wholly different now.

Moreover, while it is possible to combine being an MP with working as a barrister (as some Labour and Tory MPs still do), fewer high-flying lawyers now enter the Commons. Hence, despite having a dozen barristers among his MPs, Tony Blair went

gap in Whitehall has partly been filled by the arrival of Lords Simon, Sainsbury and Macdonald (all became peers on taking office or shortly before). These appointments are also partly symbols of new Labour's desire to have good relations with big business. Defending Mr Macdonald, Donald Dewar, the Secretary of State for Scotland, argued in favour of bringing "new talent and new experience into Government... someone who has drive, ability and a record (as chief executive officer of a great public company) that we cannot find in Parliament".

The role of ministers is anyway changing as special advisers become increasingly powerful. Ed Balls at the Treasury, Michael Barber at Education, and, until recently, Norman Warner at the Home Office have had

far more influence over policymaking than most middle-ranking and all junior ministers in their departments.

The complaint that such outsiders have not been elected is irrelevant. What matters is that they are held properly accountable. At present, ministers in the Lords are not only questioned in their own House — often more effectively than in the Commons — but often appear before select committees of MPs, as Lord Irvine has. Special advisers can also be questioned by committees. Moreover, a simple procedural change would allow Lords ministers to be questioned on the floor of the Commons or in special grand committees of all MPs on particular subject areas.

But if more ministers are drawn from outside the Commons, what does this mean for MPs? Of course, the heart of any Government will still be ministers who are MPs. But overall there should be fewer ministerial jobs in the Commons: a century ago, at the height of the British Empire, there were 33 ministers and whips in the Commons, a little over a third of the current total. A shift in the balance, with perhaps two Commons ministers in most departments (apart from the jumbo ones) rather than four or more, would change the career patterns of MPs. Instead of dreaming about becoming a parliamentary secretary, a new MP might, instead, aim to become the chairman of a select committee, especially if the post was paid. MPs could then concentrate more on their representative and scrutiny roles.

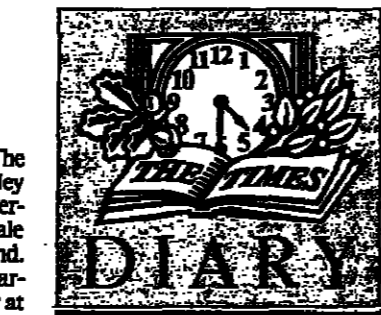
The Government has already recognised the desirability of separating executive and legislative functions. A White Paper published ten days ago argued that "both the executive and backbench roles are vital to the health of democracy. Each role can only be fully effective when it is separated from the other. These roles therefore need to be separated and each given its rightful place and powers". That was about local councillors, but precisely the same could be said about MPs. We might get better ministers, and more effective MPs.

Staying put

GEOFFREY BOYCOTT has abandoned plans to leave Yorkshire. The cussed cricketer put his farmhouse in the "gin and jag" village of Woolley on the market last year, hoping to move into a smart Southern home overlooking Poole Harbour in Dorset. Alas, he has had to abandon the sale while he appeals against his conviction for assaulting a former girlfriend.

Boycott's plans went awry after Margaret Moore told a French court earlier this year that he had launched a "brutal and cauldish" attack on her at a Riviera hotel in 1996. He was given a three-month suspended sentence and fined. As he was convicted *in absentia*, he has the right to demand a retrial (he pleaded an engagement on the pitch: "How can we interrupt such a noble activity as cricket?" the judge asked sarcastically) but the process is far from swift, and he has sent the removal men away so he can concentrate on the case.

Boycott, at Headingley this weekend for the fifth Test, had hoped to move to the £450,000 waterside home with Ann Wyatt, the main woman at his crease for almost 40 years. For Miss Wyatt, who was keen to leave chilly Yorkshire, the delay is the latest goody in a long and chequered innings: Boycott lived with his mother until she died (he was 43) and conducted several affairs during their partnership. But one man will be pleased — Dickie Bird, the umpire, who was



stand what it means to have your spiritual landscape destroyed? Among the senior cork huts in the room was Philip Flood, the Australian High Commissioner. He produced his most diplomatic smile.

Howards' way
IT MUST be in the blood. Annabel Howard, the 18-year-old niece of the Earl of Suffolk and a descendant of Catherine Howard, wants to "wing walk" — the reckless practice of shuffling across the top of a small plane in mid-flight. The young Howard, showing the spirit of her flirtatious ancestor (Henry VIII had her beheaded for "adultery") hopes to emulate her cousin, Lady Philippa Howard who, at 12, recently became the world's youngest wing walker. Annabel is being trained for her stint atop a biplane

by something called the Crunchie Flying Circus. "I used to watch the planes from the playground," she says eagerly. "I swore that one day I'd be an acrobat."

● ANGELA PLEASANCE, daughter of the late Donald, had a whirlwind to fund her latest play. The Last Obit, by Peter Tinniswood, has just started its run at the Edinburgh Festival, at the handily-titled Pleasance Theatre (named after the street it lies on, not her Dad). To help meet the £4,000 production costs, the actress (pictured below) sent out cards to 100 of her



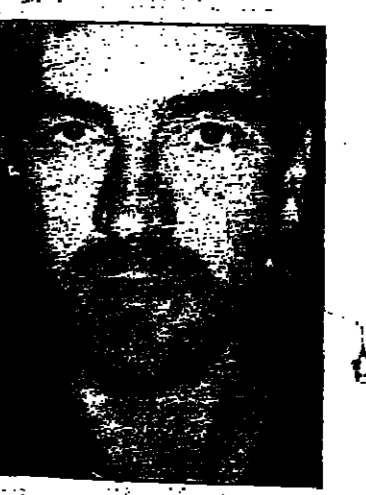
friends including Alan Rickman, Miriam Margolyes, Susan Hampshire and Susannah York, asking for a £5 note. "They have all been fantastically generous," she gushed. "For the out-of-work actors it is a lot of money."

True blue
ONE man standing by the Tories is John Beckwith, uncle of Tamara and the chairman of Pacific Investments. The secretive businessman has helped to bankroll the party's £250,000 "Listening to Britain" campaign, an ambitious attempt to find out why the voters turned so aggressively against them. "Beckwith is one of only a few very rich men who are still helping us," says one of the party's senior figures. "With the Tories so low in the polls and the party's finances in such a state, to give money is a sign of serious generosity."

Leave it aht
Henry Kelly has picked a fight with Alf Garnett. The Classic FM presenter accuses Warren Mitchell, the actor indelicately linked with Johnny Speight's Cockney creation, of selfishness over his campaign to reduce the noise of Kenwood House concerts. "It's all very well for peo-



Since scampering naked in *Room With A View*, Julian Sands has been admired by my bedwarmer at Diary Towers. But he has been outvoted in a "sexiness poll" by his brother, Quentin, a teacher, won a *She* magazine contest after a former pupil nominated him. "I'm convinced there are a lot more sexy people," says Sands. "It might result in a career change." Prepare the casting couch.



After rearranging the Transport Ministry to suit his smoking requirements, John Reid is getting down to business. A photo stunt on a bus brought him face to face with a bus conductor. Explained Reid: "It's the first time since I came to power that a man in uniform hasn't saluted me."

JASPER GERARD



A POLICY FOR PAY

Government should not lecture bosses, but learn from them

New Labour claims to understand and support the enterprise culture. The depth of its belief will be tested by the issue that fuels the politics of envy — how much people are paid. Gordon Brown wants public sector pay to rise only in line with inflation. As we report today, NHS consultants are only the latest public servants to chafe against the Chancellor's restraints. Pay restrictions have also contributed to poor recruitment in the nursing profession and discontent in other areas of the welfare state.

Meanwhile, Britain's directors continue to enjoy a pay bonanza: over the last year, senior directors in Britain's 350 largest listed companies saw their pay and bonuses rise by an average of almost 18 per cent. This news was greeted with angry protests from union leaders. But ministers should sit on their hands and resist any temptation to interfere with directors' pay. Instead of trying to impose the same incomes policy in the private sector which applies in the public, they should apply the disciplines of business to the business of government.

The Government's dilemma is, in part, of its own making. In opposition, Labour made political capital out of the excesses of directors' pay in privatised industries. Now in office, however, ministers have discovered how difficult it is in an open economy to place a ceiling on rewards. The Government is faced with public sector discontent, and is sensitive to the need to limit pay so that inflation and therefore interest rates may fall. Ministers are searching for a solution but all they can do is exhort entrepreneurs not to enjoy the fruits of their efforts.

A Government that refers to the "enterprising nation" in its annual report should know that incentives in the private sector depend on success being rewarded. The market will penalise a company whose largesse towards its directors is misplaced.

Government action can only injure enterprise. The problems of formulating a minimum wage are nothing compared to those of defining a "maximum wage". What is an exorbitant salary?

Would everyone who earns "unjust" salaries find their pay cut, irrespective of the number of people their company employs, the investment it makes and the opportunities it creates? Pop stars and footballers, dozens of whom receive telephone number salaries, employ no one but entertain millions: would they be exempt? And why is it more unjust or unfair for a company director to cash in his share options than it is for a gambler to win millions on the Lottery?

Rather than turning its fire on the captains of industry, many of whom are Labour's new friends, the Government should concentrate on the area of the economy for which it is responsible: the public sector itself — especially health and education. The attraction of careers in either area has been undermined by the bureaucratic rigidity with which they are managed, the militancy of public sector unions, the lack of proper career structure and, above all, no sense that merit will find a suitable reward.

Yesterday the new Chief Secretary to the Treasury, Stephen Byers, argued that new resources, including pay, "must be linked to the achievement of performance targets". But this Government, like the last, is nervous about establishing a transparent link between an individual's salary and his measurable productivity. In schools and hospitals national pay structures stifle initiative. An embrace of performance related pay would inject the incentives and disciplines that motivate workers in the private sector. Its introduction would be a first step towards extinguishing the furnace of envy over how much people are paid.

TERROR'S TENTACLES

Africa is not immune to Islamic terrorist networks

With 5,000 injured and the death-toll still rising, Kenya's Muslims have been given priority, out of respect for the burial customs of their religion, in the tragic queues of those waiting to identify their dead. If it becomes established that the perpetrators of Friday's carnage in Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam were Islamist extremists, governments in the region will have to guard against an anti-Muslim backlash in these stricken, hitherto relatively tolerant communities.

The choice of African targets does not of itself suggest the opening of a new geographical front in Islamic fundamentalism's war against the "Great Satan". The preferred targets would have been in the Middle East, but improved security at US installations in the region since the Dhahran bombing in 1996 has made these less accessible. Yet Africa is not immune to Islamist zealotry. Links were opportunistically forged after 1973, when Arab governments, courting African countries as part of their strategy of isolating Israel, portrayed Islam as the champion of the Third World's oppressed. Islamist terrorist cells have exploited that African foothold, and evidence suggests that they have had some success.

Mujahideen groups in Afghanistan and Bosnia included African believers. Vigilante organisations in South Africa chanted fundamentalist slogans; clans in Somalia's collapsed state have embraced *Sharia*; political opposition in Tanzania's Muslim east has taken on an increasingly Islamist tinge. In Sudan and Algeria, massacres are committed weekly in the name of the Prophet. Nigeria, home to the world's third largest Muslim population, constantly teeters on the brink of violence between Islamic north and largely Christian south.

In slaughtering hundreds of citizens of some of the West's closest regional friends,

the bombers may also have been striking at Washington's containment of Libya, one of the three states — the others being Sudan and Iran — labelled by the US as "terrorist". Its fundamentalist Government, guided by the zealot Hassan Turabi, is thought to have been behind attacks on tourists in Egypt, the latter's president Hosni Mubarak and the World Trade Center in New York. It sponsors rebels in Uganda and stoked the recent hostilities between Coptic Christian Ethiopia and its partly Islamic neighbour Eritrea. In supporting attempts by Uganda's President, Yoweri Museveni, to promote stability in Central Africa, the Clinton Administration has been swayed not just by African-American lobbyists but by the need to counter Khartoum's destabilising agenda.

Religious fault lines in Africa run through several states. Islam's progress stopped, in the main, where the desert and savannah met the hills and jungle. In the nomadic or oasis cultures of Saharan Africa, asceticism was strongest. In the trading sultanates of the East, and the warrior kingdoms of the African Great Lakes, Islam embraced local religious customs. In Sudan and much of West Africa, including Nigeria, Cameroon and Senegal, social mobility has blurred these lines; communities of different faiths now live intermingled.

That also creates potential tensions. Earlier ascetic Islamic movements had limited success in sub-Saharan Africa. It is debatable whether Mr Turabi's variant can do better. But across the world, militant Islam is growing stronger where Muslims feel marginalised. Hence the importance of working to make the benefits of democracy and growth universal. By sustaining its commitment to the continent, Washington can help to deny terrorists the ground in which they thrive.

STORIES IN LANDSCAPE

Even in England the scene has continually to change

In a sunlit pastoral scene by Nicolas Poussin, a group of elegant shepherds and a melancholy maid contemplate a tomb. One young man kneels to trace the words engraved on the stone with a forefinger. *Et in Arcadia Ego* they read. Their ambiguity is poignant. These words are not simply a wistful epitaph to a rural idyll. It is death, Poussin suggests — which is present, even in the beauty of Arcadia. He calmly distils and preserves the essence of loss which lies in every landscape, in every scene which is changing and dying even as the moment of witnessing it is passed.

When the 20th-century viewer looks at a landscape painting, it is not simply the subtlety and skill of the painter that is admired. There is, too, a nostalgia for what has vanished or been laid waste which resonates amid a sense of satisfaction in what has been preserved. Today *The Times* begins a two-week series which examines the work of landscape painters in Britain, comparing and contrasting the scenes they painted, with the same views today. From Constable's London to David Wilkie's *Pitlessie Fair*, from John Constable's Flatford Mill to William Dyce's *Pegwell Bay*, each of these paintings, like a still point in a turning world, bears witness to the changes that history has imprinted on the topography of Britain.

Cityscapes offer the most blatant evidence for those eager to compare the new culture

with the old. Where St Paul's dominates the slow sweeping skyline of Canaletto's 1750 view of the Thames, a modern photograph reveals a cathedral dwarfed — but not necessarily diminished — by the Lego-block towers of Manton's modern temples. And the delicate steeples which needle the horizon of the 18th-century City are mostly vanished in the modern photo, destroyed and never subsequently rebuilt.

When it comes to country scenes there are less precise landmarks by which alteration can be discerned. The great oak tree under which Robert Andrews and his wife once sat so solemnly for Gainsborough still stands. But Gainsborough was truer to his art than is topography. He, like many landscapists of his era, tended to idealise his subject. Flattering the vanities of his newly wed patrons, he broadened their Suffolk domain.

Yet it is the spirit of the rural idyll which country landscapists sought in the main to preserve. And by fostering a vision of how a topography should look they became, unwittingly, the guardians of the British landscape, the protectors of a rural mood.

As modern viewers compare a contemporary photograph with a painting which was made some centuries ago they can imagine history appearing. Yet, at the same time, they can contemplate and accept the inevitability of its passing with the calm wistfulness of the shepherds whom Poussin painted in *Arcadia*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Peenington Street, London E1 9JN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Chaos foreseen on tax-free shopping

From the General Secretary of the Rail, Maritime and Transport Union, and others

Sir, With less than a year to go before intra-EU duty and tax-free shopping is due to be abolished, the time bomb is ticking towards potential chaos, come July 1, 1999. As the EU has still not agreed a replacement regime, the transport industry is in the impossible situation of trying to prepare for D-Day without having a clue as to what the new regulations will be.

Unless the European Commission comes up with a workable alternative acceptable to all member states, we shall face a multiplicity of different tax rates on even the shortest voyage or air journey, plus the prospect of uncontrolled duty-free sales in international waters, possibly leading to the reintroduction of border controls. Thousands of jobs will be lost, vital air and sea links will be under threat, and everyone will pay more for their travel by air and sea.

Duty-free is one of Europe's most successful industries, with a turnover of over £4.5 billion pa and employing 140,000 people across the EU. To destroy it without considering the consequences would be sheer madness.

We urge the UK Government to take urgent action to ensure compliance with Council Directive 92/112 EEC, which states that a certain period of time is required to take the necessary measures to alleviate the repercussions of abolition, and that the sale of duty-free goods is retained during that period.

Yours sincerely,
JIMMY KNAPP,
General Secretary,
Rail, Maritime and Transport Union,
BILL HARRISON,
National Secretary,
National Union of Marine, Aviation and Shipping Transport Officers,
SEAN KEATING,
National Secretary, GMB,
Duty Free Confederation,
31 Great Peter Street, SW1P 3LR,
August 7.

Business letters, page 42

Lessons of Lambeth

From the Area Dean of Brent

Sir, This year's Lambeth Conference marked the 50th anniversary of the Anglican Communion as a genuinely multi-cultural body, where bishops from non-European backgrounds clearly made their presence felt (letters, August 5 and 7). It is to the Archbishop of Canterbury's credit that he has their confidence.

However, this development underlines the anomaly that the leader of a world-wide body with a non-white majority is still appointed by the British Prime Minister. Inevitably this leads to the danger that pressures within Britain unduly distort the sort of leadership to be provided for an international Communion that reflects very different contexts.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN ROOT,
Area Dean of Brent,
34 Stanley Avenue,
Wembley, Middlesex HA0 4JB.

Frank Field slur

From Mr Richard Eddis

Sir, Sources have told us variously that Mr Frank Field is childish, pathetic, a disgrace, and a failed joke (reports, August 3 and 4; letters August 5). But an official spokesman said that Mr Blair had wanted Mr Field to remain in the Government.

Assuming that the former is inconsistent with the latter, could an "official spokesman" please tell us which is correct?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD EDDIS,
Horkesley Hall, Little Horkesley,
Colchester, Essex CO6 4DB.

Van art for the Tate?

From Mrs Edna S. Weiss

Sir, I was delighted by Simon Jenkins's decision of the Tate Gallery's support for my not-too-serious suggestion that it should regard an ice-cream van parked outside the Albert Hall as a conceptual work of art ("Van Gogh to van art", August 1).

Moreover, I would suggest that the gallery's "Curator of Interpretation", in stating that "Turner looked at landscape and saw art in it" (report, July 30), has "interpreted" Turner incorrectly. Turner did look at a landscape — but he applied his vision to create something in what he saw. He did not uproot the trees and stones etc and exhibit them as "art".

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3 Maurice Walk, NW11 6JX.

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3 Maurice Walk, NW11 6JX.

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Yearning to regain the reform of the Reformation

From Mr Stephen J. Hall

Sir, Michael Gove ("Britain gives up on the Reformation", August 4) touches on a truth which seems to be gliding past many in the Church of England.

Some — I suspect those who have it in their power to dictate change in church liturgy and who appear determined to remove the distinctiveness of the Church of England — are only too aware of Britain giving up on the Reformation. The great majority of the Church, the laity, appear not to realise the plot that has been hatched and which is now being executed in parishes up and down the land.

"Ritual" is in and "language" is out. The laity are being asked to accept forms of service which are made up of anodyne language designed to rid traditional rite of its glorious heritage and so as to make, dare I say it, the Church of England more acceptable to other faiths, including the Catholic Church. Ritual now assumes a central place, with the cleric performing an increasing number of acts which are far removed from the simple and dignified celebration of word and sacrament that made up well loved and tested acts of worship.

We are told that "matins" is now a service of the past, that the 1662 Book of Common Prayer is to be pushed aside for a new rite which is not even a pale imitation of its rich and diverse forebear, and that the new form of service is authorised by the Synod.

How right Michael Gove is to observe that the Church of England, rooted as it was in Protestantism, in the past affirmed the spiritual without the need for ritual. In contrast, the New Age Church of England appears to be frightened of argument and, far from living in language, seems positively to disavow itself of its fine and strong heritage.

Why is it that the Church of England is determined insanely to

destroy its glorious distinctiveness which was so happily based on the Reformation?

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN J. HALL,
11 Southdown Avenue,
Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1EL,
August 5.

From the Reverend Edward Black

Sir, The death of Protestantism is not at all strange, rather, it is the inevitable consequence of the basic tenet of that faith that there is no certain truth in religious matters and therefore no reliable religious authority in this world. Consequently it was a foregone conclusion that it would be eroded by its own self-doubt and that it would share the declining fortunes of the social structures which supported it.

Michael Gove is mistaken in believing that Protestantism was "the nation's glue". It was the State which created the Church of England and, generally speaking, the latter has depended on a strong social order, not the reverse. It is for this reason that Protestantism is now "unstuck".

Yours faithfully,
ALAN F. GIBSON,
General Secretary,
British Evangelical Council,
Alma Road, St Albans AL1 3AR,
becoffice@aol.com
August 4.

From the Reverend Giles Hunt

Sir, Michael Gove deplors the decline of Protestantism, of which the foundation stones, as he says, were "the open Bible, a vernacular liturgy, and the preaching of the Word". He seems unaware that over 30 years ago the Second Vatican Council adopted these reforms.

The reasons for the Reformation protest having thus been removed, it is hardly surprising that, as this fact gradually sinks in, the number of Protestants declines.

Yours faithfully,
GILES HUNT,
The Cottage,
The Fairstead, Cley-next-Sea,
Holt, Norfolk NR25 7RJ,
August 4.

From the General Secretary of the British Evangelical Council

Sir, To be upbeat about the Protestant faith may not be trendy, nor make us the darlings of the media; but, as Michael Gove observed, you have not heard the last of us.

His perceptive article does not, however, make the point that the Protestant Reformation was essentially a work of God, moving Churches back to biblical Christianity. Although negatively "protest-art" it was also a

Death of doctors

From Dr Colin Fink

Sir, Increasing the number of medical students in order to resolve the UK's shortage of UK-trained doctors (report, July 24; see also letter, same day) is wasteful unless medical trainees are offered a decent prospect of a consultant post at the end of their training.

Under present arrangements those who finish training in their specialties are allowed only six months of continued employment after their accreditation to the specialist register held by the General Medical Council. If by then they have not secured a consultant post in the NHS they find themselves wholly unemployed.

This arrangement, as well as being a gross waste of skilled resources and manpower, alienates those of the workforce who wish to contribute to the NHS that has trained them. It also takes no account of the inevitably imperfect matching of the number of

fully trained specialist registrars with the number of consultant posts available at any one time. It ignores the fact that many NHS trusts are cutting consultant posts or are delaying filling them.

Such short-term accounting, which fails to take any account of the need to develop diagnostic skills, is imposed by local administrators who have little understanding of — and no responsibility for — the country-wide planning required for consultant numbers.

With such insecurity in prospect, many trained specialists are leaving the NHS in disillusionment, before they find themselves pushed out.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN FINK,
(Clinical virologist and general practitioner),
Microbiology Ltd,
University of Birmingham
Research Park,
Vincent Drive, Birmingham B15 2SQ,
August 3.

British Judaism

From Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain

Sir, Of course the Chief Rabbi, representing Orthodox congregations, is an important voice (letter, August 4). The irony is that the position is modelled on the Church of England and was invented in 1845 to parallel the role of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The only other country in the world that has a national Chief Rabbinate is Israel, where the office was established by the British authorities during the mandate period, under the false impression that it was a long-standing tradition.

To maintain the image, if, within British Jewry, Rabbi Sacks is to be considered Archbishop — a major figure but only speaking for one section of the faith — then our "Cardinal Hume" could perhaps be said to be Rabbi Tony Bayfield (of the Reform Synagogues), with the Moderator of the Free Churches being Rabbi Charles Midleton (Liberal Synagogue) and the head of the Greek Orthodox being equivalent to Rabbi Louis Jacobs (Conservatives).

Over the last 150 years, British Jewry has become a pluralist community and, like the Church, has several denominations based on the same Biblical tradition.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN ROMAIN,
Maidenhead Synagogue,
9 Boya Hill Avenue,
Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 4ET,
August 6.

School uniform

From Mr Nick Elstley

Sir, I remember arguing with a friend and rival who attended a nearby public school and telling him that he and his mates looked like proper little swots in their distinctive smart blue uniforms (letters, July 31).

"Well, you wear uniforms at your school, too", he retorted. "Yes", I replied, "but at least we take care to keep ours dirty".

Yours sincerely,
N. J. ELSLEY,
40 Oxford Gardens, N20 9AG.

From Mrs R. L. Henson

Sir, I went to Cheltenham Ladies College in September 1924. Until that term home clothes had been worn by the girls on Sundays.

'Lousy' pensions

From Mr Ron Smail

Sir, Congratulations to Graham Searjeant for writing the unwelcome about pensions (article, Business Analysis, July 30) — "an equity scheme is grand for saving but the annuity at the end is an inflexible lottery", as well as "pension schemes are a lousy way to save without tax relief".

At present there is the prospect that annuity rates, already tumbling, will fall even further as long-term rates in general fail to meet Euroland levels. And that is not the only adverse factor for the prospective purchaser of an annuity, who is totally reliant on the level of the Stock Exchange at the time of purchase. Who can say that those levels will be maintained, let alone increased, in future?

Yours faithfully,
RON SMAIL,
113 Heybridge Avenue, SW16 3DS,
August 3.

In place of cronies

From Mrs Patricia Coady

Sir, What is the difference between cronyism (letters, August 6) and its more favourably regarded and much-used predecessor, the old boy network? A public school education?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA COADY,
Oakmore, Ashman's Road,
Reccles, Suffolk NR34 9NP.

Seasonal headwear

From Mr D. F. Jamieson

Sir, I wear a Panama hat acquired by my grandfather in the 1920s. It is a little crumpled now and has one or two holes. My wife and daughters are embarrassed to be seen with me in it. But I find it eminently satisfactory, and I am sure Mr Alan Child (letter, August 6) would approve.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD JAMIESON,
Hilton Cottage, Broomleknowe,
Lasswade, Midlothian EH18 1LN.

From Mr Michael Richardson

Sir, I can reassure Mr Child. At least two battered specimens were to be seen in a small Umbrilian town last month: I was beneath one of them.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RICHARDSON,
12 Northumberland Place, W2 5BS,
August 7.

Sport letters, page 31

Balloon spy flight to Russia planned by MoD

from Africa

OBITUARIES

AIR MARSHAL SIR CHRISTOPHER HARTLEY

Air Marshall Sir Christopher Hartley, KCB, CBE, DFC, AFC, former controller of aircraft at the Ministries of Aviation and Technology, died on July 29 aged 85. He was born on January 31, 1913.

Christopher ("Cub") Hartley was closely involved in the development of Concorde during the last four years of his RAF career. Attached to the Ministry of Technology as controller of aircraft, he sat as alternating chairman of the plane's development committee and as such, attended Concorde's "roll out" in 1969.

Hartley had been posted to the civil aviation job from the Ministry of Defence in 1966 after being immersed throughout most of the decade in the problems of military procurement. As Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (operational requirements) and then as Deputy Chief of the Air Staff, he had been close to the TSR-2 story (with its unhappy ending), followed by Britain's evaluation of the American F-111 and the subsequent procurement of the Phantom. Not only was he thus well qualified to oversee the complex Concorde programme, but was by virtue of his intellect and interests, at his happiest in Whitehall's corridors of power.

Yet Hartley had first won his spurs as a night fighter pilot with a Beaufighter Squadron in the Second World War. He was much involved in testing night fighting concepts and was once dispatched to East Anglia from his Wilshire base to examine a German night fighter whose defusing crew had deluged it intact to the RAF (it is now in the RAF Museum at Hendon).

In 1944, moreover, Hartley's squadron was deployed to evaluate the most promising techniques for shooting down the German V1 "Doodle Bugs"—a hazardous operation at the best of times.

Hartley, who was awarded an AFC in 1944, nearly lost his life that same year, in a mid-air collision with another pilot. Forced to bail out, he escaped with two broken legs and appeared on crutches at his second wedding later that year. His legs then had to be re-broken after the first attempt to repair them had failed and although they then mended well enough for him to win a DFC in 1945, he suffered increasingly from arthritis in later life.

Nonetheless, he faced a dilemma when the war ended—whether to remain in the RAF or return to his previous career as an Eton schoolmaster. After some consideration, he resolved to



Hartley: from biology master at Eton to Deputy Chief of the Air Staff

stick with the Air Force—a decision that was abundantly vindicated by his reaching its second top active rank.

Christopher Harold Hartley was the son of Sir Harold Hartley, the eminent scientist and industrialist who was to become scientific adviser to the Duke of Edinburgh. Young "Cub" (originally a family nickname) was born in Oxford where Hartley Senior was then based as a don at Balliol College.

He went to school at Eton, where he displayed his lifelong athleticism by playing rugby for the 1st XV and rowing for the college's 2nd eight. He also won an exhibition to Balliol, where he

rowed for the college and graduated in zoology.

Before going up to Oxford, Hartley had taken part in a university scientific expedition to Sarawak, collecting specimens for the Natural History Museum. While at Balliol he passed the summer vacations on two more such expeditions, one to Spitzbergen, the other to Greenland—where he and a colleague spent three months on their own in the Arctic, 250 miles north of the nearest Eskimo settlement, while studying marine biology.

He also spent a year at King's College, Cambridge, before coming down

from university, because his father wanted him to broaden his experience. It was for similar reasons that Sir Harold nudged his son towards his first job with the Leeds-based firm of Fowler's—making agricultural machinery. "Cub" spent some time on a farm in East Anglia, trying out a revolutionary new tractor.

He then moved to the London Zoo from where he swapped places with his friend, the naturalist James Fisher, then a master at Eton. Neither was happy in his job, so they did a deal—presumably with the blessing of their respective employers. Hartley accordingly moved to Eton in 1937 to teach biology there until the outbreak of the war.

Having flown with the university air squadrons at both Oxford and Cambridge, he was immediately called up as a pilot and served as an instructor for part of the time until being posted to his Beaufighter Squadron in 1942.

He was involved in intelligence work for a time after the war, interrogating defectors at one stage—particularly one aeronautical engineer whom he looked after as a "minder" for some 12 months. But much of this work was top secret and he never discussed it even with close members of his family.

On retirement from Whitehall and the RAF in 1970, Hartley stepped into the aerospace industry. He became a director of the Westland Helicopter company in 1971 and later became first chairman and then deputy chairman of the British Hovercraft Corporation—a Westland subsidiary.

At one stage he started a business consultancy of his own and later went to live on a farm in Cumberland where he reared a herd of Hereford cattle and took great delight in going to market and talking to local farmers.

A tall, strong, wiry man, he was always happiest out of doors and his spare time interests reflected this. He was a skilful fisherman and a good shot, sailed more than once for the RAF in the Fastnet race and also represented his service at skiing and mountaineering. Mountaineering was perhaps his greatest love.

The 1937 marriage to his first wife Anne Sitwell, a member of the literary family, was dissolved after six years. Eton College's disapproval of divorce for its staff may have been another reason why he did not return there in 1945.

In 1944 he married his second wife Margaret, a fashion model before the war, from whom he was later estranged. She died nine years ago and Christopher Hartley is survived by their two sons.

MAHBUB UL HAQ

Mahbub ul Haq, Pakistani economist, died in New York on July 16 aged 64. He was born in Jammu, India, on February 22, 1934.



Mahbub ul Haq: made "basic needs" a priority

ONE of those rare and fortunate economists who had the opportunity to see the profession from the vantage point of policy-making, Mahbub ul Haq was instrumental in putting the concept of "human development" at the centre of contemporary economic thinking. Although he held a series of important posts in a career which spanned four decades—including Finance Minister of Pakistan—it was primarily as special adviser to the United Nations Development Programme in the 1990s that he made his mark. During his stint there, he revolutionised the practice of development economics and helped to rescue the subject from two decades of free market orthodoxy. Thanks to him, and to the efforts of economists with whom he worked, goals such as high literacy, longer life expectancy and the improved economic and social status of women were once again made relevant and integral to the larger project of economic growth.

Born in Jammu in undivided India, Haq studied at Government College, Lahore, before moving on to read economics at King's College, Cambridge, in 1953. After completing his doctorate at Yale in 1957, he returned to Pakistan, where he worked as the chief economist of the country's planning commission until 1970.

In that year, he joined the World Bank as director of its policy planning department. At the time, the bank was going through a transition induced, in part, by the growing criticism of its insensitivity to poverty and inequality in developing countries. Along with Robert McNamara, the World Bank's president, Haq helped to formulate the strategy of "Basic Needs", which emphasised the importance of publicly provided health

care, education and food security.

In 1982 Haq returned to Pakistan to join the Cabinet of the then President, General Mohammed Zia ul Haq, holding various portfolios, including commerce, planning and finance portfolios.

His tenure as Finance Minister was largely hamstrung by the authoritarian nature of the martial law regime, but he did give more emphasis to poverty alleviation.

After the death of Zia and the restoration of democracy in Pakistan, Mahbub ul Haq returned to the United States as special adviser in the UN-development programme. In 1990, he launched its first report, which ranked countries not by macroeconomic abstracts but by the quality of life enjoyed or endured by their citizens.

The centrepiece of the report was the "human development index", which combined per capita income with literacy rates and life expectancy. The results were more than a little startling, with several countries

conventionally considered poor, such as Cuba and Sri Lanka, doing better than "richer" ones such as Turkey or Indonesia.

Haq argued that development was about enlarging people's choices and that income, health, education and security were all important dimensions of this process. Even governments with inadequate resources could provide their citizens with sufficient development capabilities so long as they gave priority to basic needs. Today the annual Human Development Report which Haq launched is arguably the single-most influential UN publication.

After leaving the UNDP in 1995, Haq returned to Pakistan and set up the Human Development Centre for South Asia. For him, the sub-continent represented the economist's biggest challenge, home as it was to abysmal and persistent levels of poverty and destitution. He is survived by his wife, the economist Khadija Haq, a son and a daughter.

DONALD KING

Donald King, former Keeper of the Department of Textiles at the Victoria and Albert Museum, died on July 10 aged 77. He was born on October 13, 1920.

DONALD KING was a distinguished medievalist who spent more than 30 years as a curator in the department of textiles at the Victoria and Albert Museum. From 1949 to 1972 he was assistant and then deputy keeper, waiting in the wings until the retirement of George Wingfield Digby, who was keeper of the department for many years until 1972. King then attained the keepership, which he held until his retirement in 1980.

Donald King was born at Hanwell in Middlesex and educated in Ealing and Brentford. He was called up in 1941 and became an officer in the intelligence division of the Air Ministry, a posting to which he was admirably suited, having a logical mind, photographic memory and the ability to work with speed and efficiency. His spell in intelligence gave him the opportunity to widen his knowledge from two to seven languages. After the war, with an ex-serviceman's grant, he took a first at the Courtauld Institute of Art, from where he joined the V&A.

When he finally became Keeper in 1972, he presided over the department with less remote presence than his predecessors. The ease, elegance and coherence with which he illuminated what appeared to others the most abstruse and complicated subjects relating to the study of early textiles was breathtaking. His lectures were a pleasure to listen to and invariably included new insights. Al-

though he treated his chosen field with constant enthusiasm and academic rigour, he had a humorous side, and when presented with a Festschrift in 1989 he said with a twinkle in his eye: "This will make good bedtime reading." Although he probably remains best known for his work on the early periods and on carpets, his research covered a wide range of textiles, and helped to boost the subject's academic standing. This was greatly assisted by his recognition of the significance of technical analysis, as well as pattern and style, in establishing dates and provenances. To this end he had studied at the first two technical courses set up by the Centre International d'Etude des Textiles Anciens (Ciet) in Lyons in 1956 and 1957.

King's achievements included the organisation of an outstanding display of medieval English embroidery (Opus Anglicanum) in 1963, for which he managed, with his customary diplomatic skill, to persuade institutions including the Vatican and all the leading European museums to lend their most important pieces. It is difficult to imagine such a collection ever being brought together again. His catalogues included those for English Romanesque Art 1066-1200 at the Hayward Gallery (1994) and The Age of Chivalry: Art in Plantagenet England at the Royal Academy (1987). His contribution to the study of carpets included co-curating and writing for the catalogue of the exhibition *The Eastern Carpet in the Western World* (1983) and several articles in *Hall* magazine, including one on the inventories of the carpets of Henry VIII in 1983.

In the field of acquisitions, King was a major player. This was helped by his network of contacts and excellent relations with dealers and scholars. He acquired a large collection of early Egyptian textiles (late antique) from University College in the 1970s, a few years after the beautiful medieval embroidered Erpingham chasuble. His important tapestry acquisitions included the 16th-century Italian "Life of Man" tapestry, subsequently found to have been designed by Giorgio Vasari.

In 1979, King acquired an important group of medieval silks found in Iran in about 1925. In 1987 he wrote an article about these and other textiles genuinely from that site and about the numerous faked pieces purporting to be from there which had been sold to the most reputable institutions. His article adds a postscript to a controversy which had raged in the textile world for some years.

King became president of Ciet in 1977 and presided over the biennial conferences with efficiency and good humour, switching from one language to another with complete ease. His wife Monique was always at his side. She had been a curator at the Chazy Museum and worked with him on research and publications. He remained active in the textile world for many years in retirement, although eventually suffering from Parkinson's disease. His contributions to textile studies and his erudition and wit will be long remembered.

He is survived by his wife, Monique, their son and daughter, and by the daughter of his first marriage, which was dissolved.

CHRISTINE MORRISON



Morrison: a proud part in the growth of women's education

Christine Morrison, former Fellow and Tutor in English at St Anne's College, Oxford, died on August 4 aged 95. She was born in India on July 12, 1903.

CHRISTINE MORRISON was one of that early generation of women dons who gave their whole energies to their students. A woman of warmth and humanity, she presided over an era at St Anne's College that produced many distinguished women writers and journalists. Christine, always known as Kirstie (the Scottish form of her name), was ahead of her time in her sympathy with the aspirations of those from modest backgrounds who wished to come to Ox-

ford, and in her work to open the doors of the university to more women and to poorer students. She was very well aware of the inequality and privilege encountered in the early history of the establishment of women's colleges at Oxford—and, indeed, in more recent years.

Born in Ootacamund, the hill station for Madras, Christine Lato Morrison was one of three daughters of an academic family. Her grandfather was Professor of Education at St Andrews University and her father was a headmaster, who ensured that his daughters received a thorough classical education. After the family's return to Scotland in 1906, Kirstie Morrison attended St

Leonard's School, St Andrews, where she was head girl in 1921.

Although initially disappointed in her efforts to obtain admission to Oxford, she was awarded a scholarship by the Society of Oxford Home Students (later St Anne's College) in 1923, and was placed in the first class in the Final Honour School of English in 1927. She taught at Bradford Grammar School for Girls for two years and then returned to the Home Students in 1930. At first she was an assistant tutor, but very soon became Fellow and Tutor in English and remained there until her retirement in 1970.

Her exceptional abilities and powers of leadership were

noted at an early stage and she was always regarded as a natural university teacher. Teaching was, indeed, her forte and by dint of devoting herself to it she came to preside over a generation of outstanding English scholars, believing that it was more important to develop their talents than to do her own research, although she did write some poetry. Her pupils included the poet Elizabeth Jennings, Professor Dame Gillian Beer and Professor Jillian Mann of Cambridge; and the quality of those who read English under her care was nationally recognised.

There was always a welcome at Northam Road for more than sixty years: a typical North Oxford Victorian house, but with typical acceptance of new ideas—hers was the first in the district to have solar panels. She will be remembered as much for her personal qualities as her academic ones; greatly interested in individuals and with the gift of imaginative sympathy combined with soundness of judgment which ensured success as a teacher.

Kirstie Morrison played a full part in the administrative and developmental life of the college, holding at one time or another almost every college office from Vice-Principal to Dean of Degrees. She did a great deal of work for graduate welfare, and she also—perhaps more surprisingly—supported Frank Buchman's Moral Re-Armament. She had a lifelong hatred of oppression in any form, especially in the shape of racial inequality, and also did all in her power to counteract the inferior status accorded to women in some parts of the world.

She supported every move of the Home Students towards full collegiate status, and after her retirement supported later developments such as co-education. Her joy in the efforts rewarded and difficulties overcome was reflected in gratitude for the generosity of richer colleges to the poorer—especially St John's College, which originally owned so much of the land and property of St Anne's. On her 90th birthday, she commented that in the early days of St Anne's, everything was done on a shoestring: "We were a rather amateurish body and most of the tutors were daughters of academics, having to clear the breakfast or delay the lunch in order to teach in the dining room of their family homes. What a wonderful moment when each tutor had a teaching room for herself!"

Her contemporaries at Oxford included Emyln Williams, Evelyn Waugh and Gerald Gardner (a pillar of OUDS and the future Labour Lord Chancellor). She was always acutely aware of the difficulties women experienced in participating in the dramatic and cultural life of the university in the 1920s. Her own career paralleled the growth of women's education, in which she had played so full a part.

She continued to visit the college until the final year of her life. She will be remembered by generations of undergraduates who read English, through whose subsequent efforts she consolidated the local and national standing of women scholars. Although she never married, the vast number of her friends and former pupils around the world are her true heirs.

University News

MANCHESTER. Appointment of honorary offices. Chairman of Council, Mr C G Kenyon (re-appointed for one further year from August 1, 1999). Chairman of Council Designate, Mr Roger Parnon (to assume office from August 1, 2000). Treasurer Designate, Mr C R Terras (to assume office from August 1, 1999). Appointments to chairs. Chair of Classics in the Department of History, Dr David Langslow, at present lecturer in Latin Philology and Linguistics in the University of Oxford, as Professor of Classics from January 1, 1999. Samuel Ferguson Chair of Social and Pastoral Theology, Elaine Louise Graham, at

present Senior Lecturer in Social and Pastoral Theology in this university, as Samuel Ferguson Professor of Social and Pastoral Theology from June 1, 1998. Chair of Contextual Theology and Ethics: The Rev Graham John Ward, at present Dean and Lecturer in Theology at Peterhouse, Cambridge, as Professor of Contextual Theology and Ethics from a date to be arranged. Chair of Biological Chemistry in the Department of Chemistry: John David Sutherland, at present Lecturer in Organic Chemistry in the University of Oxford, as Professor of Biological Chemistry from October 1, 1998. Chair of Materials Science in the Manchester Materials Science Centre: Philip John

Withers, at present Lecturer in Materials Science and Metallurgy in the University of Cambridge, as Professor of Materials Science from a date to be arranged. Chair of Mathematical Statistics: Ross A Maller, at present Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics in the University of Western Australia, as Professor of Mathematical Statistics from January 10, 1999. Ad Personam Promotional Chair of Genetics in the School of Biological Sciences: Colin John Stirling, at present Reader in Genetics in the School of Biological Sciences in this University, as Professor of Genetics from August 1, 1998. Ad Personam Promotional Chair of Government, Paul

Anthony Cammack, at present Senior Lecturer in Government at this University, as Professor of Government from July 1, 1998. Honorary Visiting Professor. Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing Professor Sally Furnish, Professor of Mental Health at Staffordshire University and Director of Research and Development with the Foundation Mental Health NHS Trust, Stafford, to be Honorary Visiting Professor in the School of Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences. Faculty of Arts Professor Michael Haslam, Professor of Classics at UCLA, Los Angeles, California, as Honorary Visiting Professor in the Department of History and Classics from April 1, 1998.

ON THIS DAY

August 10, 1910

It would be a relief to be able to say that violent attacks on passengers in trains are a thing of the past; but many people today still go to great lengths to make sure that they sit near plenty of other people

OUTRAGE ON AN UNDERGROUND RAILWAY

An extraordinary outrage occurred on the Metropolitan Railway yesterday afternoon. The victim was Mr William Frost, of Risulip, who was travelling in a first-class carriage of the fast train that leaves Baker Street at 2.15pm for Aylesbury. Mr Frost was alone in the carriage when a man unknown to him entered. Almost as soon as the train started a struggle began, the stranger attacking his travelling companion before a word had been exchanged. Mr Frost defended himself but his assailant produced a revolver and fired. The bullet hit Mr Frost in the chin. He endeavoured to wrest the weapon from his opponent's hand, but the latter succeeded in retaining it, and fired several more shots, fortunately missing. The struggle continued for some minutes and when the train began to slow down on approaching Swiss Cottage Station the assailant jumped on to the line and disappeared. Mr Frost was lying on the seat, covered with blood but conscious, and the disorderly state of the carriage bore witness to the severe struggle that had taken place. Medical assistance was obtained and the injured man was removed to a private hospital near the station. His wound was found not to be serious, the bullet having passed through the chin without touching any vital part. He will probably be able to leave the hospital this morning.

The railway traffic was immediately stopped and a search was made in the tunnel, the railway officials being accompanied by several police officers. Eventually Mr Frost's assailant was found crouching near the tunnel wall. From his dazed condition he seemed to have come in contact with the live rail and to have received an electric shock. He was immediately arrested. A further search of the tunnel resulted in the finding of a revolver. The name given by Mr Frost's assailant is William Simpson, and he is about 30 years of age. It

was at first thought that the object of the attack was robbery, but papers have since been found on the man which show that he was unlawfully the inmate of an asylum.

OUTRAGE IN A TRAIN

Miss Grace Clark of Nottingham was seriously injured yesterday afternoon in consequence of an attack upon her while she was travelling between Aulendborough and Trent on the Midland Railway. Miss Clark, who is the daughter of Mr W J Clark, of the Nottingham Mills Company, was on her way to Kegworth to play tennis with some friends. During the journey a man who was in the railway carriage suddenly attacked her, smacking at her, and giving her a severe blow on the head with his fist. Miss Clark seized her racquet and tried to defend herself, but her assailant got possession of the racquet and hit her repeatedly.

The man made off, but was soon captured by the police. Subsequently Percy Pickering, 22, a fitter of Nottingham, was brought before the Long Eaton magistrates and charged with unlawfully wounding Miss Clark. Inspector Walker stated that Miss Clark was too ill to appear, and the prisoner was remanded until Friday. It is understood that Miss Clark is progressing favourably, but will probably not be able to leave the house for two or three weeks.

NEWS

Albright issues warning to bombers

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, pledged that those responsible for the East African embassy bombings would be brought to justice no matter how long it took.

3,000 mink freed by animal extremists

A great mink hunt was under way after animal rights extremists released thousands of the vicious killers from a New Forest fur farm.

Beaches evacuated

Torbay beaches were evacuated when more than 130 bathers emerged bleeding from the sea with feet and legs cut by hidden "razor shells".

Lost London

Canaleto found London majestically rejuvenated after the Great Fire, his 18th-century painting showing a skyline dominated by church spires.

Worst graduates

The class of 1998 is the worst in 20 years, employers said, voicing concern over the quality of graduates and admitting that they are more influenced by work experience than qualifications.

US blocks UN checks

America is so eager to avoid a new military confrontation with Iraq that it has blocked more UN weapons inspections this year than Baghdad.

Peasants lose homes

Chinese peasants tried to stop the intentional flooding of their homes to save downriver cities from the swollen Yangtze.

\$180m spree arrest

Andrei Krzhenok, a diamond-dealing high-flyer, is in jail after an international manhunt, accused of spending \$180 million embezzled from Russia's national treasury.

Taliban repelled

Afghanistan's northern alliance claimed to have pushed Taliban out of Mazar-i-Sharif, a day after the religious militia claimed to have captured the city.

Police review

A revolution in the way top police officers are selected and trained has been ordered by Jack Straw in a drive to raise standards of leadership in Britain's forces.

Gaddafi plot denied

Robin Cook dismissed David Shayler's allegations of an M16 plot to assassinate Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, as "pure fantasy".

Showgirl scandal

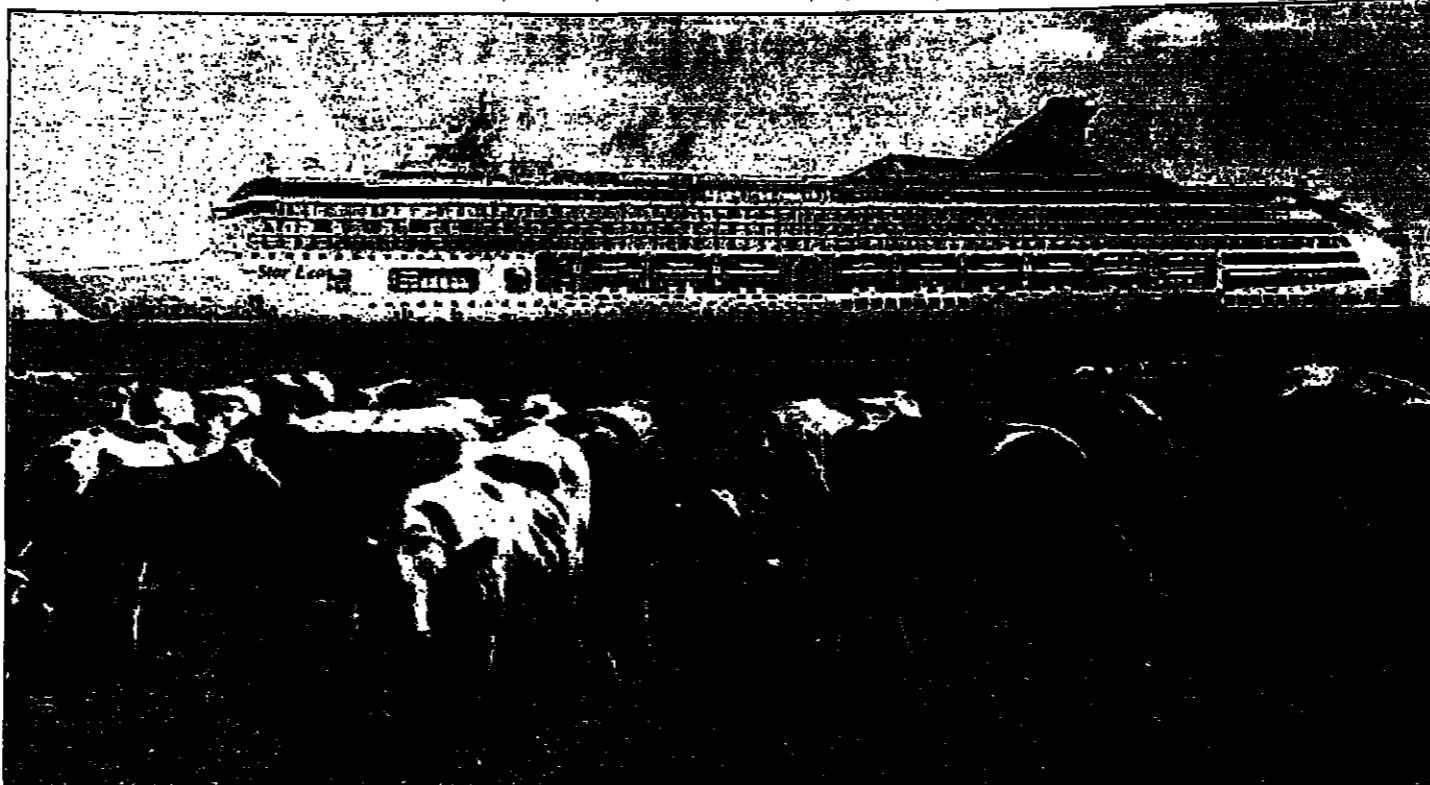
It took 15 months to find the new Bishop of Southwell, but when Gordon Savage was enthroned in 1964 there was no hint of the topless dancer scandal to come.

Women ambassadors

The Foreign Office is going to change its rules to ensure that women with children have an equal chance of reaching the rank of ambassador.

Chancellor splashes out in style

Gordon Brown was plunged headfirst into a spending row that left a question mark over his reputation for frugality as it was revealed that he pays £135 for a hair cut.



Super Star Leo, an 880ft by 105ft luxury cruiser built for a Malaysian shipping company, leaves a Papenburg yard in Germany

Polar protest: BP is preparing for a battle with protesters over plans to exploit an Alaskan reserve boasting wildlife including polar bears.

Shifting sands: In the Isle of Man they do things differently when it comes to women and the workplace.

Edinburgh offerings: The National Gallery of Scotland pays homage to the incomparable Baroque sculptor Bernini while, on the fringe, a new play about Myra Hindley is premiered.

Cricket: England stand on the verge of a series-clinching victory in the fifth and final Test match against South Africa at Headingley.

Down at heel: Forget spike and kitten heels, flat shoes are essential to a whole new fashion look, says Grace Bradberry.

Wild side: Experiments on mind-altering plants may shed light on witchcraft.

Pop double: Paul Weller and friends gather in Victoria Park for a little soul and sunshine; America's Fun Lovin' Criminals raise temperatures at the Astoria.

Football: Arsenal, who won the league and FA Cup double last season, began their new campaign with a 3-0 drubbing of Manchester United in the Charity Shield.

Electric auction: Southern Electric and Scottish Hydro are understood to have entered the bidding for London Electricity, being sold by its US owners.

Leeds disunited: The chief executive of Leeds Sporting, the parent company of Leeds United, has been ousted in the wake of behind-the-scenes battles with leading shareholders.

Doing the double: The writer and director William Nicholson talks about his new film out this week, Firelight, and a new play coming up next month at Chichester.

Golf: Catriona Matthew became the first Scot to win a strokeplay tournament on home soil for ten years when she lifted the McDonald's WPGA championship of Europe at Gleneagles.

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MAGNUM - ROBERT CAPA

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

ARTS

Life on the front line: a retrospective for the war photographer Robert Capa

LAW

Just when you thought it was safe to leave home: Stephen Jakobi on dangers abroad

Preview: Two women from very different backgrounds are drawn together after a family tragedy (The Day That Changed My Life, BBC1, 7.30pm); Review: The annual Festival of Fringe 'n' Trash is back, says Peter Barnard. Pages 42, 43

Whose business?

An embrace of performance-related pay would inject the incentives and disciplines that motivate workers in the private sector. Page 19

Terror's tentacles

Militant Islam is strongest where Muslims feel politically or economically marginalised. Page 19

Stories in landscape

By fostering a vision of how a topography should look, landscape artists became, unwittingly, protectors of a rural mood. Page 19

PETER RIDDELL

The appointment of industrialists as ministers is an admission that qualities required to be an MP are not those needed for the executive. Page 19

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Constitutional issues in the wake of accusations and counter-accusations against President Clinton were foreseen by America's founding fathers. Page 19

MICHAEL PINTO-DUSCHINSKY

Britain's community of Holocaust survivors is devising strategies for pursuing World War claims. Page 19

Air Marshal Sir Christopher Hartley, former Deputy Chief of the Air Staff, is to be knighted. Pakistani economist, Dr. M. Y. Jinnah, is to be knighted. Fellow of St. Antony's College, Oxford. Page 19

Duty-free shopping: Protestant yearnings. Alan Jackson. Matthew Page 19

Can Helmut Kohl beat Gerhard Schröder in next month's elections? Will he be able to convince voters that his programme is not easy and empty promises. La Repubblica

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,866

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-28.

- ACROSS: 1 Versatile type of sailor initially obstructed by autumn winds (4,2,3,6); 9 Mostly smart English group indulging in idle gossip (9); 10 Provider of service one needed on very short vehicle (5); 11 Standard experience for a Zoroastrian (6); 12 See about new rates for raising the wind? (8); 13 Sword a confused type used to stab bishop (6); 15 An ineffectual person recently hugged and fawned upon (8); 18 Analyse opposing arguments accurately (8); 19 One may take a share in making this trench (6); 21 Display practical skill making choppers, perhaps (8); 23 Posh fur fit to be worn? (6); 26 Frigate's new rule about mass (5); 27 Footishly agree with aunt's formal assurance (9); 28 Restriction on information that comforts young person (8,7).

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General: some light rain in the north and north-west of Scotland. NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, cloudy with some sun. Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, brightening after light rain. Orkney, Shetland: cloudy, occasional rain. Republic of Ireland: mostly dry. Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales: sunny. Winds light. Max 25C (77F).



The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,865 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20 book token.

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Table with columns for location, Sun, Rain, Max, Min, and other weather data for various cities across the UK and Europe.

Changes to the chart below from noon, low B is expected to move NE with little change in pressure; high Y should sink SE and decline; low G will fill in situ; low F will deepen in situ. TODAY's weather forecast for various regions.

سكزامن لاپل

UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT

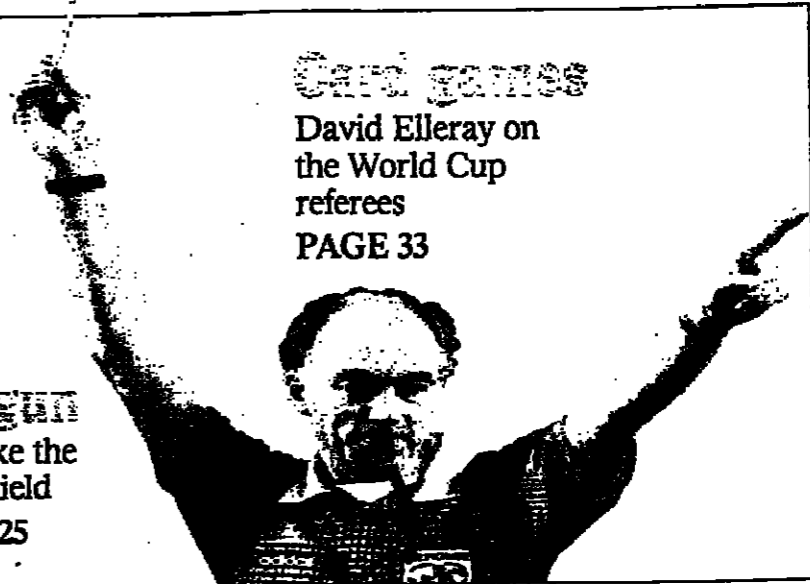


City types
New season, new hope at Maine Road
PAGE 26

PLUS
The return of Terry Venables
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Wren gun
Arsenal take the Charity Shield
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Card games
David Elleray on the World Cup referees
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TIMES SPORT

12 PAGES

MONDAY AUGUST 10 1998

HEADINGLEY THRILLER PRODUCES A CLIFFHANGER



Pollock last barrier to England win

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THERE have been times when it seemed it would never happen. There were certainly times this summer, this week, even yesterday, when it seemed as remote a prospect as ever. This morning, however, England need take only two wickets for fewer than 33 runs to claim their first win in a full series for 12 years.

Even now, it may not be so straightforward as the book-makers, who make England 5-2 on favourites, would have us believe. South Africa pulled back once from the precipice yesterday, when they rallied from an apparently hopeless 27 for five, and with Shaun Pollock still batting they can do so again.

This time, however, England have at least stared their destiny in the face without winking. They flinched a time or two yesterday, when suffering the time-honoured lower-order collapse and then when they strove to take the sixth wicket for almost three hours, but where previous England sides would have crumbled, they remained stout and strong.

Palpating cricket has become almost routine to them. They played two tense Tests in a fortnight in Trinidad last winter and the last three games of this series have all, in their different ways, been contested on a tightrope. The tension is no longer alien to them; only winning has yet to be made a habit.

In Manchester, last month, the series would have been

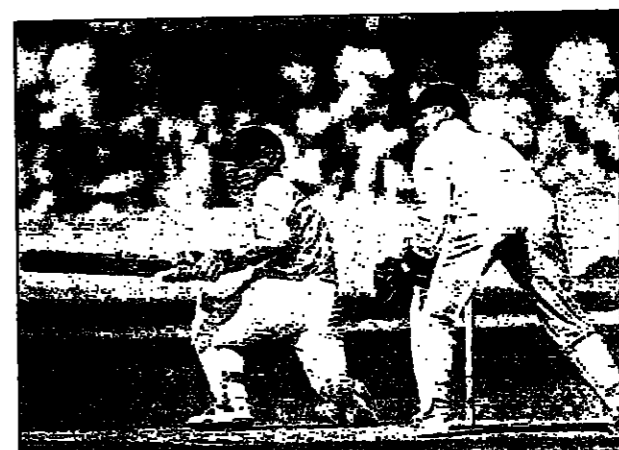
his cap and grinning hugely to the packed Western Terrace. Later, with South Africa beginning to believe they would gain a quite staggering win, Gough came back to get rid of the heroic Jonty Rhodes. If he finishes the job this morning, the celebrity status so briefly conferred in Australia, four long years ago, will descend on him again.

While Rhodes and Brian McMillan had been adding 117 for the sixth wicket, one

can only imagine what was tormenting the minds of Alec Stewart, the captain, and David Lloyd, the coach.

Lloyd, whose emotions are never easily camouflaged, kept out of sight through the South Africa innings. It was a wise precaution.

This morning, if and when the two tailend wickets fall, he can show a smiling face to a world that has never quite stopped doubting him and his England team.



Rhodes swings a loose ball from Salisbury to square leg

Headingley report — 29
Simon Barnes — 29
Michael Henderson — 29
Scoreboard — 29

beyond them but for a rear-guard action of great gallantry. At Trent Bridge, two weeks ago, it required an innings of colossal stature from Michael Atherton to secure the equalising win. And now this. Headingley has staged many memorable games and everyone has their favourite. This one, however, will linger in the mind when most have faded, for precious few cricket matches contrive to remain so open for so long. There has been barely a safe moment to avert the eyes.

Mark Butcher's century on Thursday seems an eternity ago, such have been the acute twists and turns ever since. The dropped catches that haunted England on Friday, the resolution of Hansie Cronje and the retaliation of Angus Fraser, took the match to halfway perfectly balanced.

Then came an innings of immense maturity from Nasser Hussain, more bowling of menace from Pollock and Allan Donald and the creation of a target for South Africa of 219. It does not sound many but in this match, it was a mountain.

Quickly, sensationally, South Africa were 27 for five and apparently beaten. Quixotic umpiring played its part again, as it has done throughout this match and series, but Darren Gough, before his home crowd, was rampant.

He took three for seven in that initial collapse, returning to his fielding position doffing

Gough, England's bowling hero, pre-empted the official decision by raising his own finger to signify the end of Cullinan's stay

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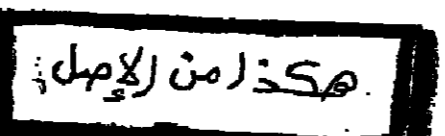
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ATHLETICS

Edwards relaxed as jackpot hopes die

By David Powell, Athletics Correspondent

JONATHAN EDWARDS could have moped around Monte Carlo on Saturday night as the man who had lost everything...

Edwards had gambled away his unbeaten record. Gone, too, was his chance for a share in \$1 million. Yet he woke up yesterday reflecting on "more pluses than minuses"...

The fact that I am out of that now has removed that problem," he said. As Edwards, Frankie Fredericks and Svetlana Masterkova suffered defeats...

Steve Smith, the injured high jumper, has replaced Roger Black as men's team captain for the European championships...

SMITH leads a 46-man team at Budapest between August 18 and 23. An additional nine men were called up yesterday...

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS: Final selections: Men: 5,000m: R Finch, 110m hurdles: A Tuloch, High Jump: B Peaty, D Gray, Pole vault: N Bardsley, Long Jump: S Phillip, Discus: G Smith, P Wilkie, 4x400m relay: J Bunch, Women: 800m: D Miskin, Pole vault: E Harby, Long Jump: J West, 4x400m relay: K Kerry...

Edwards had gambled away his unbeaten record. Gone, too, was his chance for a share in \$1 million. Yet he woke up yesterday reflecting on "more pluses than minuses"...

GOLF: SCOTTISH SPIRITS RAISED AS ONE OF THEIR OWN WINS WPGA EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Matthew too steady for pursuers

By John Hopkins, Golf Correspondent

FOR varying reasons those Scots who like to spread themselves by a green at a professional golf tournament and watch competitors file past may be feeling a little hard done by at present. There were nightmarish traffic problems in an often damp and dismal event at Loch Lomond in July...

Yesterday, at least, Scots had a chance to cheer as one of their own won a strokeplay tournament on home soil for the first time for ten years. Catriona Matthew, who was born in Edinburgh and brought up in North Berwick, had been a leader in the McDonald's WPGA Championship of Europe at Glenageggs since Thursday...

It took time for the sun to burn away the mist on the last day but, when it did, it shone on Matthew, who was playing just as well as she had three days earlier. The 28-year-old former Australian Open champion had led by two strokes after 54 holes and by four strokes after 63.

She held on and comfortably won the first prize of £45,000 with the minimum of fuss and a series of extremely good strokes. Her first victory in Europe in her fourth year as a professional was by five strokes from Helen Alfredsson and Laura Davies.



Matthew lifts the trophy after her steadfast play had been rewarded with her first professional title in Europe

Matthew is one of those people who is difficult to read. She walks with her head held high and little movement of her arms, looking a picture of composure. Her face is a mask of inscrutability and it is hard to tell whether she is three under par or three over.

Matthew's swing seems just as measured and unhurried as her stride. It is slow, yet firm and rhythmic, and on a day like yesterday, when she was the target and all she could do was lose the tournament, it wanted for nothing in rhythm and elegance.

The extent of Matthew's victory is to be measured in more than golfing terms. It might seem easier for a Scot to win in Scotland given the obvious degree of support but in fact the opposite seems to be the case.

The weight of support can be as heavy as leg irons. Ken Brown was the last male Scottish professional to win a European Tour event in his home country, back in 1984, four years before Cathy Fenton-Lewis won the 1988 Scottish Open.

Huggett stages action replay

By Mel Webb

IT WAS nerve-racking, visceral stuff, but had they not been this way before? They had. For the second time in eight days, Brian Huggett and Eddie Pollard faced each other in a play-off yesterday. For the second time, Huggett prevailed at the first extra hole, but this time the prize was infinitely greater, because at stake was the Senior British Open Championship...

Huggett and Pollard had faced each other the week before at Wentworth, and Huggett won the Schroder Senior Masters when he hit a brave six-iron to three feet to set himself up for the birdie that beat Pollard and Neil Coles.

Victory was sweet for Huggett at that moment, for he had not won a European Seniors Tour title for three years and, at 61, he must have wondered if his winning days were over. If he had not won then, who is to say what effect defeat might have had on his psyche now? Happily for the fiery little Welsh terrier, it was a question that will never be answered...

question that will never be answered. As the fortunes of Huggett and Pollard waxed at Royal Porthcress, so did those of Tommy Horton wane. Horton, by a distance the most successful player on the circuit, has been trying to win this title since he passed his fiftieth birthday seven years ago. He faded this time to a 77 and a share of fifth place.

Instead, it was left to Pollard, the Ulsterman, to pose the threat to Huggett, but, full of *hoy!* though he was from first drive to last putt, he was unable to shake Pollard off as they finished in a tie on 283, five under par.

Brian Barnes, physically exhausted from recent labours on the other side of the Atlantic, might have joined them if he had holed a 15-foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole of the championship. Somehow, the impression was that Barnes was happy enough this time to leave the agony and the ecstasy to others.

Huggett's closing round had been launched when he pitched in from 75 yards on the 1st, and he then birdied three of the next four holes, while Pollard left the drama to the last three, two of which he birdied. On what proved the deciding hole, Pollard's undoing was his second shot, which he hit to the right of the green.

He had to clear a bunker and, downhill and downwind, stop the ball quickly to give himself a chance for par. Huggett, meanwhile, played the hole perfectly — drive, one-iron, two putts. Faced with a 15-foot putt to extend the play-off, Pollard started the left-to-right breaker too straight and watched grimly as it wandered off to the right. The home town boy had been denied his moment in the sun. To lose one play-off might be considered bad luck, to lose two to the same man in as many weeks adds cruelty to the equation. It must have hurt.

Allan recovers after his six at short hole

By Padraig Harrington

PADRAIG HARRINGTON and Mark Roe both faltered in the closing stages as Stephen Allan, a 24-year-old Australian, won the German Open with an eight-under-par aggregate of 280 at the Sporting Club in Berlin yesterday. Harrington, from Ireland, dropped a shot at the last and Roe, from England, did the same at the 17th. They shared second place with Ignacio Garrido, of Spain, the overnight leader, and Steve Webster on 281.

Allan, who finished with a 69, had a triple-bogey six at the short 13th, at which point he was five shots behind Garrido. But, while Allan birdied both the 16th and 17th and single-putted the 18th for

Matthew's lowest round was a 67, a new professional record, on Saturday and she had only seven bogeys in 72 holes. Her worst bogeys were not over the opening holes when Davies and Alfredsson, more experienced than Matthew, might have gone for her but on the 16th when she hit a wobbly six and, momentarily, thought that she had better not lose her nerve at that stage.

Laura and Helen are two world-class players and I knew they would come out with lots of battles and, be after me — from the start," Matthew said.

Davies's anticipated challenge did not materialise at all and Alfredsson's had gone by the time Davies three-putted the first two holes and, when Matthew started with two pars and birdied the 3rd, she had fallen to five strokes behind. Alfredsson's chase, such as it was, ended when she dropped strokes on the 8th and 9th.

Matthew had been twentieth in the Solheim Cup table at the start of the tournament. This victory has lifted her to sixth and, with the British Open this week and a lucrative event in Sweden to come in two weeks' time, she is odds-on to make Pia Nilsson's team against the United States next month.

"Put it this way, I'd be disappointed not to make the team from that position," Davies said.

LEADING FINAL SCORES (Club Championship and behind unless stated): 29th C Mathew 71, 68-67, 69, 281; H Alfredsson (Swed) 72, 69, 70, 71; L Davies 72, 69, 68, 72, 282; M McKay 74, 70, 69, 69; K Pearson (Aus) 73, 71, 67, 71, 281; G Nilsson (Swed) 73, 68, 69; M Horton (Scot) 73, 69, 73, 69, 295; D Barnes 73, 71, 69, 71, 295; S Garrido (Spa) 73, 73, 68, 71; M Roe (Eng) 74, 69, 72, 73, 287; C Sorenstam (Swed) 76, 69, 68, 73.

SAILING

Cowes has the wind taken out of its sails

By Edward Gorman, Sailing Correspondent

SKANDIA Life Cowes Week fizzed but on Saturday when the sea breeze, which allowed for some classic racing in the latter part of the week, did not materialise, forcing race officers to cancel the last day of competition, a pity in classes where a fast fight for the spoils was eagerly awaited.

In Class 1, it was Tony de Mulder at the wheel of his Duhois 37, *Victor 4*, who took the honours after a consistent series which saw the relatively small boat perform well under CHS against bigger rivals, including Swans and Farr 40s, in fresh conditions.

De Mulder, a businessman from south Yorkshire whose crew is largely picked from players at Doncaster Rugby Club, of which he is chairman, came to Cowes after a disappointing Rolex Commodore's Cup in which his chartered Farr 40, *Victor 5*, had failed to perform to his expectations.

With a win in the New York Yacht Club Challenge Cup and four seconds, *Victor 4* proved too much for Ki Hobbday's *Independent Bear Mark II*, which was well placed to finish second overall in defence of the title she won last year.

Among the smaller CHS divisions, Class 74 with 52 crews racing in mainly production cruisers saw some of the tightest competition. The overall winner was Peter Bruce in the Contesta 33 *Owl of Lymington*, which was lowest rated in the fleet but managed to beat all her rivals, including Nigel Theadom's *First 33.7, Crickley III*, which was second overall.

Bruce has won the class twice before and been runner-up on four other occasions. "There seemed to be more higher-rated boats around this time — particularly Nigel Theadom's *Crickley* — so we were getting competition from people that rated quite a lot more than us, which seemed to give them an advantage because they were able to sail in clear air more than we were," he said.

In the Solent Sunbeams, two of the five Falmouth boats finished in the top three, with Jonathan Money's *Polly* taking the title ahead of Roger Wickens, the class captain, in the 18-foot *Danny*. In Dairings, the top three were all former winners at Cowes with Richard Acland, in *Damsel*, taking the spoils.

RUGBY LEAGUE: LEEDS CAPITALISE ON DUBIOUS SINBIN DECISIONS AS REDS' POOR RUN CONTINUES

Salford down on their luck Castleford flag in the heat

Salford Reds 6 Leeds Rhinos 40

By Peter Wilson

SALFORD are in urgent need of a change of luck. Outplayed yesterday by a smarter, quicker Leeds team eager to shake off a run of indifferent form, the Reds have now lost ten of their 11 games.

Playing against a team hoping to reach the Super League Grand Final was tough enough for Salford without the added burden of having Gary Broadbent, their best player, sent twice to the sinbin by Karl Kirkpatrick, the referee.

In both cases he appeared to have been penalised harshly for excellent tackles. The handicap proved too much of a burden for a Salford team already lacking five internationals. Matters got worse when

Shane Kenwood, their new Australian signing, lasted only half of his debut before sitting out the final 40 minutes with a wrist injury. Andy Gregory, the Salford coach, insisted that he would still be in charge next summer despite his side's poor form. He said: "I have been hearing all the speculation about my future but I won't be forced out."

Salford's problems mounted, Leeds were allowed time and the space to enjoy themselves. Andy Hay and Adrian Morley, the second-row forwards, did most of the damage as Salford wilted in the heat.

It was Hay who scored the first try after only nine minutes and, when this was quickly followed by a touch-down from Richie Blackmore, engineered by Hay, things looked bleak for Salford. Phil Hassan, the former

Leeds centre, gave the home supporters something to cheer about with a try but there was little else of comfort for them. By half-time, Graham Holroyd had stretched the Rhinos' lead, again with a little help from Hay.

Morley joined in the scoring spree and, with Broadbent back in the sinbin, Salford lacked the necessary cover to prevent Brad Godden from going over in the 61st minute. Further tries from Hay, who intercepted a pass by David Hume, and Morley completed the rout.

SCORERS: Salford: Try, Hassan; Goal, Steve; Leeds: Tries, Hay (2), Blackmore, Holroyd, Morley (2), Godden; Goals, Hume (6). Salford Reds: G Broadbent, J Harris, S Moran, P Hassan, D Rogers, S Kenwood, S Smith, P Southern, M Allen, C Eccles, P Holroyd, P Porter, D Harris, Substitutes: C Ramsdale, E Farnham, J Farnham, N Alexander. Leeds Rhinos: M St Helens, L Rivers, R Blackmore, B Godden, F Curran, J Harris, R Sheppard, M Meade, T Newton, D Peary, A Morley, A Hay, M Godwin, Substitutes: D Horwood, D Powell, A Farrell, G Mathew. Referee: K Kirkpatrick (Warrington).

Castleford Tigers 16 Halifax Blue Sox 36

By Christopher Irvine

IN SOME eyes, hot, languid afternoons are the essence of the game in its summer guise. For 40 minutes at Wheldon Road yesterday, Castleford revelled in the blistering conditions, before the heat and a suddenly revitalised Halifax exacted a heavy toll.

Having sweated buckets to lead 16-10 at the break, Castleford fatally took a breather and were over-run so badly in the second period that it was not until five minutes before the end of the second period that they got across the halfway line. Halifax racked up five tries without reply in that time to reinforce their third position in the JJB Super League.

Castleford last won three successive games two years ago. This inconsistency, which Stuart Raper, the Tigers' coach, had specifically warned against after the defeats of Warrington and Leeds, again haunted them as their play-off chances all but expired.

Halifax's spine of the precociously talented Chester, just 19, at stand-off half, the cultured Clinch inside him and Rowley and Moana, both wonderfully in-form at hooker and loose forward, has been at the heart of the Blue Sox rise this season. This quartet transformed a game in which Castleford had begun where they left off against Leeds last week.

Early tries by McKell, Gay and Flowers, who latched on to a crossfield kick by Davis, had opened up Halifax with ease. The visitors kept reasonable pace with scores in reply by Chester and Clark.

Then we rolled up our sleeves," John Pendlebury, the Halifax coach, said with characteristic understatement. Rowley played a part in all but two of Halifax's seven tries. With Clinch he initiated the try by Bouving in the 47th minute from which Castleford never recovered.

It was the first of three in nine minutes as Tuilagi touched down on the right and Moana dribbled through. Marshall and Clinch, with a try of daring simplicity, then completed the rout.

SCORERS: Castleford: Tries, McKell, Flowers, Gay; Goals, Orr (2), Halifax Blue Sox: Tries, Chester, Clark, Bouving, Tuilagi, Moana, Marshall, Clark; Goals, Clinch (2), Pearson. CASTLEFORD TRIERS: R Gay, J Flowers, F Mackey, A Voulas, J Wells, D Orr, B Deane, D Sampson, R Pease, R McKell, M Brown, A Scheik, J Harford, Substitutes: M Fox, N Sykes, J Orinley, P Smith. HALIFAX BLUE SOX: J Bloom, F Tuilagi, D Powell, M Pearson, D Bouving, G Chester, G Clark, K Hamilton, P Rowley, K Sheppard, D Clark, G Mercer, M Moana, Substitutes: D Adams, S Barclay, Marshall, M Hall, Referee: J Connolly (Wigan).

ing their part. It was a pity that so many of the main characters were absent. Missing were the entire Saints back division, who were attending the wedding of their teammate Micky Byrne back at base in Telford.

Also missing — and probably far more significant in the long term — were the normal rugby league accents and the macho professional northerners who look on everyone south of Sheffield as a southern softy. However, it was one player of northern roots and know-how, with Widnes experience, who exposed the depleted Saints. Steve O'Reilly, the Jets player-coach, contributed a personal tally of 20 points, including a spectacular solo try.

SCORERS: Chester, Tries: Bloom, O'Reilly, Harford (2), Henderson (2), Goals: O'Reilly (8), South Norfolk: Tries: Stratton, Bowles, Groom.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Powerful Rafter gains revenge on Henman

■ TENNIS: Tim Henman failed to reach the final of the Du Maurier Open in Toronto when he was beaten 6-2, 6-4 by Pat Rafter, of Australia. The reigning US Open champion, beaten by Henman in the last 16 at Wimbledon, polished off the Britain No 2 in convincing style.

Henman, seeded seven, had his service broken twice to fall 4-1 behind in the opening set and could not prevent Rafter from serving out the set. The 24-year-old from Oxford made a sluggish start to the second set and was soon trailing 4-2, putting a simple smash into the net as Rafter went from strength to strength. The powerful Australian sprinted through his final service game to reach the final against Richard Krajicek, of Holland, who beat Andre Agassi, of the United States, 4-6, 7-5, 6-2 in the other semi-final.

Gowshall powers to title

■ BOWLING: Amy Gowshall, 19, from Waltham Park, Grimsby, became the youngest-ever winner of the women's national Champion of Champions title at Royal Leamington Spa yesterday, when she beat Joan Crapper 21-9 in the final. On Saturday, Maureen Monkton and Edna Bessel, from Yeovil, defeated Helen Tuohy and Pat Launders, of Shepherds Bush 19-14 in the pairs final, holding on grimly after opening up an 18-4 lead. Lynne Whitehead, from Norfolk, defeated Rachel Chidgoy, of Stratford Town, in the final of the under-25 singles.

Matthew rallies in vain

■ SQUASH: Nick Matthew failed to reach the final of the Merrill Lynch world junior men's championship despite a tremendous fightback in Princeton in the United States. Matthew, the No 4 seed from Yorkshire, lost to Waad Hsten El Hendy, of Egypt, 5-9, 2-9, 9-4, 9-1, 10-9, in an 81-minute struggle. Matthew had trailed 1-7 in the final game before recovering to have a match ball at 9-8. El Hendy was beaten 7-9, 9-5, 9-0, 9-5 in the final by Ong Beng Hee, of Malaysia.

Pierce surprises Hingis

■ TENNIS: Unseeded Mary Pierce saved three match points to upset Martina Hingis, the No 1 seed, 3-6, 7-6, 6-2, in the semi-finals of the Tostiba Tennis Classic in Carlsbad, California. Pierce, of France, faces Lindsay Davenport, the second seed from the United States, in the final. Davenport advanced with a 6-4, 2-6, 7-5 victory over fourth-seeded Monica Seles.

Britain win third bronze

■ ROWING: Frances Houghton and Debbie Flood won the bronze medal in the women's double sculls yesterday, the third bronze won by the British team at this year's junior championships in Oppersheim, Austria. The German crew, the gold medal-winners in the quad sculls last year, took the gold, while the Australian pair pipped Britain to the silver. Earlier, the men's coxed four and pair also took bronze.

LOMBARD TROPHY UPDATE

Now in its fourth year, it's already the biggest and best Pro Am golfing event in Europe. In 1998 over 100,000 club golfers from 1,200 clubs competed in qualifying rounds for the right to partner their club professional in one of 16 Regional Finals. The 16 winning pairings gain an expenses paid trip to the Grand Final between 25 and 29 September, flying to the Algarve with TAP Air Portugal. Lombard, the event's sponsor, is the UK's largest finance house which advances around £150 million each week to their business and personal customers - many of whom compete in the Trophy.

North West Final The Weirsides Club, from Sunderland, snatched victory from the host pairing at Hesketh, Southampton seven hours after the target of 64 had been set. At 18 years of age, Southport's Michael Mayor came close to becoming this year's youngest winner of a regional qualifier when he partnered host professional, John Donoghue, to a brilliant net 64 (eight under par). But, having been out first of the 90 pairings, they had to suffer the disappointment of defeat when the penultimate match, finishing seven

hours later, brought home the winners, the Weirsides pairing of Doug Brolls and 13-handicapper Bony Walker, with a net 63. The victorious host club, Pennal in Harrogate, represented by their South African assistant professional, Richard Nutten, and 4-handicapper Craig Hunter, set off at 7:30am, the first of 80 pairs. This was the 60th regional final since the tournament began four

years ago, and the first time the host club has won such a final. Richard, who's 23, got a cheque for £450 for his efforts, the nominated amateur absent on holiday. PGA assistant Tony Westwood and 16-handicapper Michael Watson stepped ably into the breach and led home almost 80 other clubs, with a net 62 (eight under par) giving them a one-stroke win over Kibworth. Biggest he's won in his short career - but if successful in the Grand Final at San Lorenzo in the Algarve he'll pick up 10 times that sum. Capitalising on their familiarity of the Pennal course they carded a net 64 (eight under par). Report compiled by the PGA Press Office

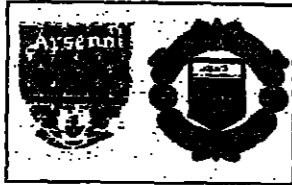
East Midlands Final The Leicestershire club of Kirby Muxton, despite having to change both their professional and amateur, came up trumps at Kedleston Park, Derby. With professional Bruce Whipham unable to play because of a wrist injury, and the nominated amateur absent on holiday, PGA assistant Tony Westwood and 16-handicapper Michael Watson stepped ably into the breach and led home almost 80 other clubs, with a net 62 (eight under par) giving them a one-stroke win over Kibworth.

Conference switches attention from north

HARRY JEPSON, the Rugby League Conference president, hit the right notes as he handed out the prizes to Crawley Jets, 40-12 winners over South Norfolk Saints, the finalists in the Bedlington competition (Peter Wilson writes). "If somebody had told me a couple of years ago that I would be attending a rugby league cup final at Cheltenham with the two competing teams coming from Sussex and Norfolk I would have told them to go and lie down in a darkened room," the man who has held high office in the game for more than 50 years, said. They may be taking a different route from the money men, who see franchises under the Super League brand name as the way forward, but the grass-roots enthusiasts behind the Conference are play-

Vertical advertisement strip on the right side of the page. Visible text includes 'Arsenal W', 'Baiting Be...', and 'Hancock critic...'. The text is partially cut off and mostly illegible due to the image quality.

FA Charity Shield: Double-winners complete comfortable victory in Wembley heat Arsenal warm to their second home



ARSENAL 3 MANCHESTER UNITED 0 By Oliver Holt Football Correspondent

ARSENAL turned the FA Charity Shield into a giant house-warming party yesterday as they settled comfortably into the venue that will house their Champions' League ties by embarrassing their invited guests, Manchester United, and adding another Wembley triumph to their FA Cup Final victory here last May.

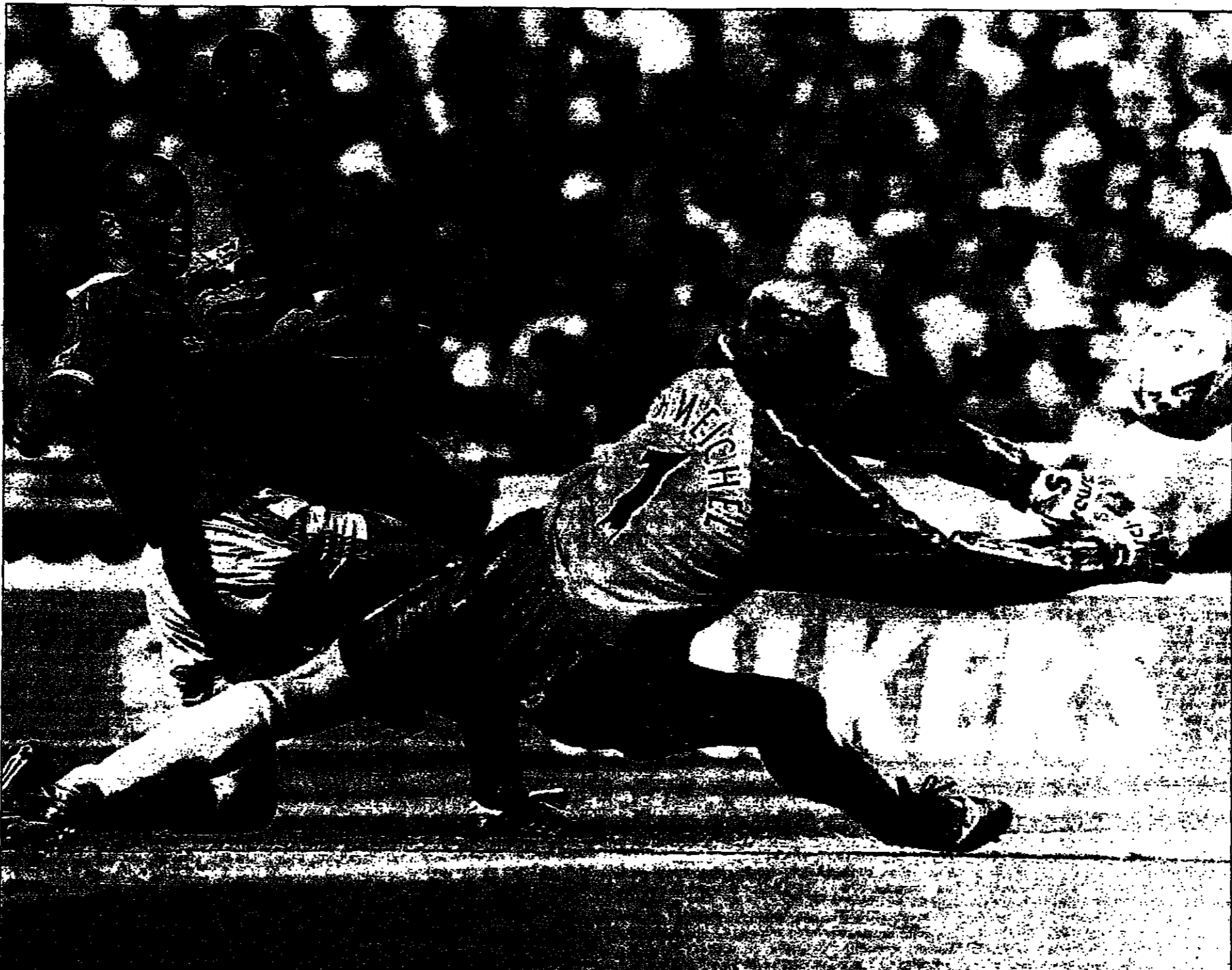
Quite what the significance of their 3-0 win over Alex Ferguson's side holds is difficult to judge. In the second half, in particular, United appeared to be playing with the European Cup qualifying round in mind, conserving their energy, withdrawing their leading players from the fray en masse.

But the emphatic nature of Arsenal's win, against the team that they overhauled so dramatically in the league last season, can only leave them in good heart as they prepare to open the defence of their FA Carling Premiership title against Nottingham Forest a week today and United harbouring doubts about their ability to wrest the trophy back.

Both teams have been engaged in fruitless searches for a new striker over the summer and, on this showing, United's need appears to be the more pressing. Andy Cole hardly mustered a shot and the suspicion is returning that United will not be able to conquer Europe with him leading the line.

Things will improve when Roy Keane gets closer to full fitness but, if nothing else, the game yesterday proved that United have more work to do than Arsenal to ready themselves for the marathon ahead. Ferguson, the United manager, must also be concerned lest David Beckham, who had a quiet, subdued match, drowns amid the cacophony of raucous jeers that greeted his every touch.

You can learn certain things from the games we played on our pre-season tour of Scandinavia," Ferguson said, "but that was a real match today. I thought it was very competitive and that we matched them for much of the first half."



Anelka shakes off the challenge of Stam before shooting past the diving Schmeichel to provide Arsenal with the cushion of a three-goal lead yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

Those of us, though, who had imagined that Arsenal might have felt sluggish under the accumulated weight of the laurel wreaths that have been hung round their necks, that their French World Cup winners, Emmanuel Petit and Patrick Vieira, in particular, might have been sated with honours, were mistaken.

They were hungrier than United from the start, even though Keane seemed intent on using the first 20 minutes to prove that his injured knee could withstand even the most outrageous of lunge and the most shuddering tackles. Ryan Giggs and Paul Scholes were neat and composed as

usual but, as the half wore on, Arsenal emerged the stronger, more assured side.

Marc Overmars, who accelerates into Wembley's wide and welcoming arcs like a sports car hitting the open road, and Nicolas Anelka, whose speed is just as explosive, combined to ensure that a thoroughly uncomfortable debut alongside Ronnie Johnson at the heart of the United back four. The Dutchman was culpable for the third goal, scored at pace by Anelka in the 72nd minute.

By then Arsenal were coasting, confident in their superiority. They had ridden their luck in the first 20 minutes, when United were at their best. Beckham played one delightful crossfield pass to Giggs that he killed on his instep and clipped into Scholes, who was denied by Seaman's smothering save.

Thereafter, Arsenal were rarely threatened and took the lead in the 33rd minute. Vieira chipped a delicate pass over the United defence to Bergkamp, who ran into the area and backheeled the ball to Anelka. Johnson seemed to have dispossessed him but Anelka blocked his clearance and, when the ball broke to Overmars, he drove it high

into the net beyond Schmeichel.

Both Ferguson and Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, agreed that that goal was vital, that it forced United to chase the game in the heat of mid-afternoon and contributed to them wilting in the sun. As they pressed forward in search of an equaliser, they became ever more susceptible to the incursions of Overmars and it was from one of these that Arsenal scored their second goal.

The Dutchman, who made his reputation in this country by outpacing Des Walker at Wembley, ran at Gary Neville. Neville slipped as he

backtracked, allowing Overmars to cut inside and slip the ball to Anelka. Anelka helped it on to Wirth, who had come on for Bergkamp, and although Schmeichel blocked his first shot, the rebound fell kindly for the Liberian, who scored at the second attempt.

That was the signal for a spate of substitutions to disfigure the match, but they did little to alter its course. Arsenal finished things off for Arsenal, running on to a pass from Parlour, evading Stam and shooting left-footed past Schmeichel.

"Winning things is a good habit," Wenger said. "I don't think winning today will help

us to beat Manchester United in the league, but at least the players know where they stand a bit more now. Psychologically, it was important for us to win at Wembley so we feel happy here during the Champions' League."

The preliminaries are over now, at least. The real thing is upon us.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D. Seaman - L. Dixon, A. Adams (sub: S. Bouadjir, 70min), M. Keown, N. Winterburn (sub: P. Parlour, P. West, 60min), G. Gervinho, S. E. P. (sub: L. Bon, 45min), M. Overmars (sub: S. Hughes, 57min), P. Scholes (sub: C. West, 45min), N. Anelka. MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-1-1): P. Schmeichel - G. Neville, J. Stein, R. Johnson, D. Brown - D. Beckham, R. Keane (sub: H. Beech, 70min), N. Bastin (sub: D. G. Scott, 55min), R. Giggs (sub: J. Cheyff, 60min), P. Scholes (sub: P. Neville, 69min) - A. Cole (sub: E. Sheenaghan, 60min). Referee: G. Paul.

Baiting Beckham quickly loses appeal for fans

So much for the lynching of David Beckham. Led to believe that Manchester United's fallen star would return to a traitor's welcome, we were left instead with a pantomime villain, and a pretty subdued one at that.

"Boo!" the Arsenal fans jeered for the first ten minutes every time he went near the ball. "Hiss!" they spat out. Then quickly they, like the rest of us, got rather tired of it.

Of course, it could all get worse before it gets better for the man who is supposed to be the nation's public enemy. This was a hot day on the open expanses of Wembley with a greyhound track and a small battalion of stewards to protect him.

Sick him next to thousands of snarling West Ham United fans in the claustrophobic confines of Upton Park - as he will be on the second Saturday of the season - and it would test the most placid of temperaments. And Beckham's is certainly not one of those.

For now, though, he is, sensibly,

keeping his head down and getting on with the game, and he will have left Wembley yesterday far more concerned at the malfunction in United's midfield than at the jibes. He declined to discuss either last night but, in that respect, he was not alone. The United players were not in the mood for a chat.

It was left instead to Alex Ferguson, the United manager, to add some perspective to a story that has spiralled beyond all reason. Pressed on the reception that Beckham received, Ferguson was predictably scornful. "I am not going to answer that question," he said. "I don't know why you are even bothering to continue with David Beckham as an agenda. I just picked my best team."

Arsène Wenger was more forthright, but, on the rather tame evidence of yesterday, he probably overstated the case. "Beckham will have to adjust to all the jeering he is getting," the Arsenal manager said. "He is a good player, but he will

Matt Dickinson sees the United midfield player keep a low profile at Wembley

have to prepare himself for that kind of reception. I think, after the first two months, it will all disappear, but it will be difficult for him until then.

"People are fragile and you never know how they will react. The pressure will be higher at smaller grounds, but he will learn to cope with that. I hope people will forgive



Beckham feels the heat during his return for Manchester United

Hancock critical of format

TEAM Edele, the set-up that embraces Greg Hancock and Billy Hamill, missed out on its target of the British Grand Prix at Coventry, but highlighted difficulties with the new format being used in the world championship series.

Hancock and Hamill, both Americans, had been warned by Edele that results must improve after Hancock, the reigning world champion, in particular slipped down the world rankings. However, the team, which had wanted both Hancock and Hamill to make the rostrum last Friday on the track that is their British League base, saw their riders both miss out but could not fail to be impressed with their performances.

Hancock, who was more directly affected by Edele's

warning after dropping to seventh in the grand prix rankings, fell a further place at Coventry. He said: "Before the semi-final Billy and I thought we could do ourselves a big favour, it didn't happen, but the team has got to see this new format up close and see that we fought our way through."

"Team Edele is still very strong and this is not the end of it. There is a lot of talking to do, but in 1999, I'm sure it will be running hard again. I just hope I am part of it."

Hancock went on to win the consolation final to take fifth place and the semi-final was the only race in which he did not finish first. "It was almost picture perfect. But one race

can finish your whole night, that is the point of this new format," he added.

Jason Crump won the second British Grand Prix of his career, to move up to seventh in the world championship standings, while Tony Rickardsson, who went into the meeting with a 22-point lead at the top of the rankings, saw his advantage cut.

Rickardsson, from Sweden, who suffered awful mechanical problems at the practice on Thursday, failed to make the semi-finals for the first time this season. Jimmy Nilsson, a fellow Swede, is now within ten points of him.

None of the five British riders reached the semi-finals. The best of the bunch was Mark Loram, who finished in eleventh place.

Sprinting Walker shuffles the pack

CHRIS WALKER lost no time in signalling to his rivals in the 166km Havant Grand Prix road race yesterday that he was prepared to give them a hard time over testing, minor roads in Hampshire. Within the first 2km he launched his initial attack and went clear with six others - and another 166km later he harvested his reward.

It was Walker's second Premier Calendar victory of the year and further underpinned the continued superiority of the Team Britte squad, who have now won 12 of the 17 events in the 19-race series. Walker was never absent from the leading pack at 25km

to go, Julian Winn was tailed off when Matthew Stephens, the national champion, put on the pressure leaving the two of them to dispute the lead.

Walker's speciality is a fast turn of speed in a sprint. Stephens knew that he was destined for second place well before his rival sprinted for the finish line.

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Atkinson claims of drugs use draw FA rebuttal

By MATT DICKINSON

ALLEGATIONS by Ron Atkinson that drug abuse is commonplace in the FA Carling Premiership brought a swift response from the Football Association last night. Atkinson, though, will be more concerned about the reaction from book-buyers, with his allegations attracting attention to the forthcoming publication of his autobiography, A Different Ball Game.

In the book, the former Sheffield Wednesday manager claims that "a well-known English international is reputed to be the biggest dealer in football", although when pressed on the matter yesterday he admitted it was purely a rumour he had picked up.

"There are players running out every Saturday in the Premier League with cocaine, certainly cannabis and all sorts of funny tablets buzzing around in their system," he adds, again without specifying names. He also writes that he secretly tested Aston Villa players for drugs while he was manager at Villa Park.

"When the analysis was completed, we discovered that at least two Villa stars of that era had taken an illegal substance," Atkinson said. "If the evidence had been laid in front of the FA, they would almost certainly have been banned for a lengthy period."

With no players named in the book, the FA is unlikely to press the matter. Officials responded yesterday by saying that the number of drug tests is to be doubled as the game seeks to distance itself from the drug controversies damaging cycling, swimming and athletics.

"Over the last few years, the number of tests has risen from 272 to more than 500," Steve Double, an FA spokesman, said. "The positive finds were three last year, five the year before that, seven before that and 12 before that. We have been testing more but finding less and we currently have a proposal with the Government to double again the existing programme."

Unsworth given ultimatum

ASTON Villa yesterday threatened to stop David Unsworth's wages if he fails to report for training this morning after Everton failed to meet Friday's deadline for settling his £3 million transfer to Goodison Park.

The former England defender is threatening to ignore that instruction and remain at home in Liverpool, which could force John Gregory, the Villa manager, to call in the Football Association (FA) and Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) to try to resolve a situation that even the player's agent admits has become a "complete farce".

Steve Stride, the secretary-director of Villa, has made a personal plea to Unsworth to change his mind and return. "The lad has a career and he needs to think about that," he said. "He is still our player and, if he doesn't turn up, he will be fined. The maximum we can fine him is two weeks' wages, but if he doesn't train or play for us, he won't be paid either."

Villa signed Unsworth from West Ham United more than a fortnight ago. Within 48 hours the player told Gregory that he had made a terrible mistake and wanted to rejoin Everton.

Nationwide League: Early penalty save denies newly promoted side victory at Blundell Park

Exuberant Grimsby draw breath for a day

Grimsby Town 0 Ipswich Town 0

By GEORGE CAULKIN

MULTIPLE exclamation marks at the end of a sentence usually signify two things: the sentence makes no grammatical sense and is completely lacking in drama.

Relegation, promotion and two winning visits to Wembley in the space of a breathless 12 months confirm that the exuberance of all those at Grimsby is eminently reasonable.

If any match this week was destined to remain goalless, however, this was it, featuring as it did a Grimsby side that kept 35 clean sheets in all competitions last season.

It was enough, though, to draw a satisfied response from Buckley. "Our players performed magnificently," he said with typical understatement.

The game began dramatically with a long, hopeful punt forward from Tony Gallimore, the Grimsby defender, was met by a wild, hopeless attempted clearance by Tony Mowbray.

Thereafter, however, it was Ipswich's half and largely because of the explosive pace of Bobby Petta, their Holland Under-21 international, who unnerved the Grimsby defence wide on the right.

Petta's stock, like that of his team-mates, fell sharply in the second period. His growing frustration at Grimsby's increasing dominance resulted in a deserved yellow card when he tumbled theatrically under pressure from Handyside.

As it was, Ipswich were fortunate to cling on for a point, a superb arching save from Wright in the 73rd minute denying what appeared a certain goal.

There had already been similar acrobatics from Aidan Davison, the Grimsby goalkeeper, who had tipped a flighted effort from the right boot of Kieron Dyer onto the crossbar, but Wright, called up to train with the England squad later this month, was the busier of the two.

GRIMSBY TOWN (4-4-2): A Davison - J McDermott, P Handyside, R Smith, T Gallimore - S Caldwell, T Widdowson, P Gowen, K Black (sub: D Smith, 75min) - J Lewis, J Nogan.

IPSWICH TOWN (4-4-2): R Wright - M Telford, J McWhirter - M Vero, J Handyside, M Stoddard, M Holland, K Dyer, M Holmes (sub: A Walsh, 58), B Potts (sub: D Somers, D Johnson). Referee: A Wiley.



Bradbury, left, celebrates after scoring the second goal during an unconvincing performance by Manchester City with Dickov, the creator

City take stock of long-term recovery

Mid the triumphalism, back-slapping and standing ovations on Saturday, one longed for a dose of good, old-fashioned Maine Road cynicism.

The truth is that it will be years before City can shed the legacy of a decade of scandalous mismanagement. One need only glance at the squad roster to know that.

It will not be a pretty sight, though, as they do battle with Colchester United, Gillingham and Walsall.

GRIMSBY TOWN (4-4-2): A Davison - J McDermott, P Handyside, R Smith, T Gallimore - S Caldwell, T Widdowson, P Gowen, K Black (sub: D Smith, 75min) - J Lewis, J Nogan.

Manchester City (3-4-3) N Weaver - J Thompson, G Walters, A Vaughan - R Smith, J Pickett, G Lewis, K Rodick - Brackley (sub: J Whalley, 67min), S Gosper, P Dickov (sub: D Albion, 67).

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Keane underlines his versatility City receive a dose of realism

Wolverhampton W 2 Tranmere Rovers 0

By BILL EDGAR

ALEX FERGUSON is not the only manager grateful to have a fiery Irishman returned as vice-chairman and signed a player-coach.

Since blaming his team's disappointing ninth-place finish in the Nationwide League first division last season on a lack of firepower, McGhee has disposed of four strikers, agreed to sell two more and failed to sign any, angering

many supporters. Keane, who usually played behind two centre-forwards, was the only realistic candidate to partner Steve Bull up front and he did so to devastating effect on Saturday.

The 18-year-old delighted with his twists and turns and perceptive through balls and he also hammered home the opening goal in the twentieth minute.

Another key to Wolves's deserved success was the pace of Steve Froggatt, who panicked the otherwise outstanding John McGreal into tripping him in the penalty area, leaving Keith Curle to make it 2-0 from the spot after 89 minutes.

Scott Davidson, the City chairman, before the game, should not be taken to represent any lack of ambition - far from it. Money has been made available to Ward and there are plans to expand the ground capacity, which, Davidson made clear, will require City to continue their upward mobility and attract large attendances.

It helps if your chairman's target for the season is "not to be relegated", which should be well within their capabilities. But the words of

Bristol City 2 Oxford United 2

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

THERE are worse ways to start life in a higher division than with a draw at home to unfancied opponents. It can temper over-inflated expectations, remind players and supporters that standards are now higher - and you still get a point.

GRIMSBY TOWN (4-4-2): A Davison - J McDermott, P Handyside, R Smith, T Gallimore - S Caldwell, T Widdowson, P Gowen, K Black (sub: D Smith, 75min) - J Lewis, J Nogan.

Bristol City (4-4-2): K Welch - A Locke, J Wells, S Dwyer (sub: L Curry, 74min), M Bell - J Goodridge (sub: J Dobson, 87), C Hutchings, M Hewitt, J Trotter - S Anderson (sub: J Thompson, 72), A Henery.

Oxford United (4-4-2): P Whitehead - I Robinson, D Davis (sub: P Powell, 65), P Gilchrist, S Marsh - J Buschcamp, D Wineson, M Gray, M Smith (sub: D Smith, 65), M Murphy, A Thompson (sub: S Westhead, 76).

Oxford United (4-4-2): P Whitehead - I Robinson, D Davis (sub: P Powell, 65), P Gilchrist, S Marsh - J Buschcamp, D Wineson, M Gray, M Smith (sub: D Smith, 65), M Murphy, A Thompson (sub: S Westhead, 76).

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Fry's men generous to a fault

Peterborough United 0 Halifax Town 2

By KEVIN EASON

A BOX of chocolates and a nice greetings card would have been enough to welcome Halifax Town back to the Nationwide League after a five-year absence.

The Vaughan Conference champions had every reason to be nervous, travelling to face one of the promotion

favoured for their first match, particularly as the run-up to the game featured a farcical series of coinings and goings.

The chairman left, the old chairman returned as vice-chairman and signed a player-coach, Peter Butler, without the knowledge of the manager, George Mulhall, which didn't matter much because he was pushed upstairs as director of football last week for Keiran O'Regan to be appointed player-manager, though he didn't want Butler either.

Keeping up? Good, for the new manager also discovered he had five unfit players and had to put out a patchwork side.

According to Geoff Horsfield, a forward, some of the players barely knew each other and for the first half you could tell as Halifax players wandered about, presumably exchanging introduction cards.

All was transformed three minutes into the second half when Duerden looped a ball into the penalty area, which should have been an easy nod back to the keeper for centre back Mick Bodley.

DAVIDSON, the City chairman, before the game, should not be taken to represent any lack of ambition - far from it. Money has been made available to Ward and there are plans to expand the ground capacity, which, Davidson made clear, will require City to continue their upward mobility and attract large attendances.

FOOTBALL RESULTS

Table containing football results for various leagues including the Nationwide League, Scottish League Cup, and others. It lists teams, scores, and match details.

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Music d as Venab adjusts to small sta

Nationwide League: Late equaliser quieters Palace fanfare as Peter Reid's side suffer injury blow

Music dies as Venables adjusts to the small stage

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| Crystal Palace | 2 |
| Bolton Wanderers | 2 |

By OLIVER HOIT
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

IT HAD been like a carnival. Calypso bands played requests outside the ticket office, an odd-looking couple wandered round the pitch on giant stilts and Chas and Dave belted out a few numbers on a temporary stage. For some reason, the stadium announcer insisted on booming out a deafening recording of Ravel's Bolero.

Terry Venables got a standing ovation when he walked out behind his players. His clothes looked too small for him even if the Selhurst Park stage did not seem big enough for his return to English club football.

Bolero gave way to a craggy old rendition of him singing *Bye-bye blackbird* and everything seemed set fair. But, if the sun was still shining nearly two hours later, when the referee blew his whistle to signal the end of the first stage of Palace's attempt to return immediately to the FA Carling Premiership, the atmosphere had melted away like an ice-cream in the searing heat.

The match finished not with a roar but with a murmur round the ground as if 19,000 supporters had woken from a dream. It was at that moment, the moment when Bolton Wanderers and their followers celebrated the point that they had earned with *Arnar Gunnlaugsson's* injury-time equaliser, that it began to sink in how high the stakes are for Venables now that he has chosen to take on the challenge of resuscitating Palace.

For the first time since he walked off the stage basking in the praise of England's successes during the 1996 European championship, he is out in the open again, ready to be judged as a front-line coach. If the expectations were not particularly

high when he was trying to guide Australia to the World Cup finals, it is the opposite now.

Through all his trials and tribulations, Venables has quite justifiably retained his reputation as a coach with the Midas touch, a man who has the perfect blend of tactical acumen and team-management brilliance. Now, suddenly, he must prove it all over again by breathing new life into a club that seemed on the verge of chaos last season.

Palace showed on Saturday that although the task may not be beyond him, it will not be easy either. They deserved their draw against Bolton, joint second favourites with Palace to win the Nationwide League first division championship, without looking as assured as their opponents.

There is still much work for Palace to do, though. They looked toothless in attack at times and shaky in defence, where Paul Warhurst exudes culture and style but also a nonchalance that leads to too many errors.

In their favour, they have a midfield that hints with the vibrancy of Antonio Lombardo, Sasa Curcic and the young Hayden Mullins. Matt Jansen, forward who deserves a better foil than Bruce Dyer in attack, should also be one of the stars of the first division this season.

It was Jansen who dragged Palace back into the game five minutes after half time, when he equalised. Dean Holdsworth's splendid, curling shot with a half-volley after the failure of Bolton's defence to clear an innocuous cross. Palace took the lead 12 minutes later when Smith's persistence ended with a cross into the box that Curcic volleyed in against his old club. But the dream start was ruined when Gunnlaugsson, once Ronaldo's striking partner at PSV Eindhoven, danced around a challenge on the edge of the Palace box and rifled his left-foot shot high past Kevin Miller.



Venables is given plenty to think about on his return to English football. Photograph: Ben Curtis

"A convincing win today would have done us a hell of a lot of good," Venables said after the game. "But this is not about fairy stories, it is about reality. You cannot have a disastrous season like we did last year and suddenly expect to be great in the first game of the new campaign. That doesn't happen. But I was looking forward to getting this game out of the way so it would give us a benchmark to see

where we were, how we compared to the rest. We have got to stop accommodating the opposition so much and start believing in the things we are good at. In the first half, we were on the back foot too much.

"But it is no good me worrying about it. It is not going to help us in any way if I get nervous. If it did, then I would do it all day and all night. But there are no percentages

in worrying, so why bother?" Why indeed? The first point is on the board, the job is under way, the reputation is still intact. Terry Venables is back in business.

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-2-2): K Miller - D Austin, P Warhurst, D Todd - J Smith (sub: M Edmondson, C Hogg), A Lombardo, S Curcic, H Mullins, H Jansen, M Foy, G Bergerson, A Todd - M Cox, G Holt - M Jansen. **BOLTON WANDERERS (2-2-2):** J Josephson - M Foy, G Bergerson, A Todd - M Cox, G Holt, Jansen (sub: M Johnson, 78), P Frandon, S Salfors (sub: A Gunnlaugsson, 73), J Phillips - N White, D Holdsworth. Referee: C Wilson.

Luck remains in short supply for Sunderland

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Sunderland | 1 |
| Queens Park Rangers | 0 |

By GEORGE CAULKIN

AMONG the pantheon of great sporting clichés, the hoary old chestnut that luck is something you make for yourself has always seemed one of the more brazenly unconvincing. At the end of the day, when the fat lady sings, it's not all it's cracked up to be. Brian Topping's supposed truism to its logical conclusion, Sunderland Football Club are a hopeless proposition and, though there is a certain amount of circumstantial evidence to support that claim, it is also deeply flawed: a half-decent total of 40 points took them down from the FA Carling Premiership in May last year, a whopping 90 were not enough to send them back this spring.

Good fortune, like the weather, just happens. But, when on top of these mishaps, one of your best players, arguably the most accomplished midfielder in the Nationwide League first division last season, manages just 39 minutes of your club's opening match, the vagaries of fate have to be queried. Sunderland have worked very hard recently; they have had not an ounce of good luck.

First relegation, then the thrill of the chase, then the play-off finals, Michael Gray's penalty and now Lee Clark, formerly of neighbouring Newcastle United, snags his right foot in the grass after a challenge from QPR's Keith Rowland, and suffers a broken fibula. Even though there is no ligament damage, Clark is likely to be out for three months.

While Sunderland actually won this slightly off-key encounter, if the price to be paid was Clark's injury, then it was high indeed. "It's a blow for the football club and it's a blow for the old himself. He's a fine footballer and this has put a real dampener on things," a sombre Peter Reid, the Sunderland manager, said. Reid has, however, apparently already identified a replacement: "I know who I want and, if I can get him, I'll bring him in," he said yesterday.

Without Clark, the long ball hoisted towards the towering frame of Niall Quinn ceased to be

the useful escape route it should have been. Quinn won an inordinate amount of possession on the edge of the 18-yard box, but subtly left the field with Clark; the statistics later showed 12 Sunderland shots to the visitors' two, but most of those had been of an optimistic, long-range nature.

The exception was Kevin Phillips' 74th-minute penalty, awarded for an obvious handball by Ian Baraclough, an offence that was rewarded with a red card. Any lingering controversy did not concern that decision so much as the preamble, when Quinn and the Rangers goalkeeper, Lee Harper, had leapt to meet a right-wing cross and the ball spun clear. "I thought there was a rule that, if you hit the keeper off the ground, then it's a



Clark: misfortune

foul," Ray Harford, the QPR manager, said.

So it was left to Phillips to expunge the memory of Wembley, directing his penalty low and left in front of an extraordinary crowd of more than 41,000. Gray did not seem overly aggrieved that the task was not entrusted to him and his relief was shared, because QPR, physical and obstinate, provided a glimpse of the cautious tactics that will regularly be brought to the Stadium of Light this season. It's early doors, but luck wasn't much of a lady on Saturday. **SUNDERLAND (4-2-2):** Sørensen - M Gray, J Cardozo, P Butler, M Scott - N Samardžija (sub: M Bridges, 86min), K Ball, L Clark (sub: D Williams, 36), A Johnson - N Quinn, K Phillips. **QUEENS PARK RANGERS (2-2-2):** L Harper, A Hendrie, S Yates (sub: S Stace, 80), K Healy, D Maddie, I Barrowclough - T Solly, P Murray, G Pascoza, K Rowland - K Galen. Referee: C Foy.

City slickers slip quickly into gear

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Port Vale | 0 |
| Birmingham City | 2 |

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

THERE is something sublime about watching a football match on the opening day of the season. The pitch is green and lush, the sun is usually shining and a whiff of expectation is in the air, even after the overdose of an interminable World Cup pageant less than a month earlier. Past criticism and future fears, albeit temporarily, are forgotten.

Watch it from amid the debris of a rooftop vantage point in the advanced stages of decay - as most of the press pack did - and the experience takes on a surreal feel. A bird's-eye view of proceedings gives a strange perspective, offering the distraction of nearby streets, houses and parks, with tiny figures going about their weekend business. At times, the game becomes little more than a sideshow below.

Vale Park on Saturday was a treat, a gentle introduction to the new Nationwide League first division campaign. Birmingham City were part of Port Vale with a goal in each half from Furlong and Adedola, wispy clouds drifted across a blue sky and the supporters again exercised their lungs, ultimately, in frustration or celebration.

The Caudwell stand, for the Birmingham fans, throbbed throughout. Pre-season victories over Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur and Sheffield Wednesday XIs, with 12 goals scored in total, had not been illusory. Adedola, Furlong and Ndlovu up front, a triumvirate of power and pace, could cause havoc in more exalted company.

"They gave three Premier-league defenses a tough time so I'm sure they can do it at this level," Trevor Francis, the Birmingham manager, said.

Chris Marsden, the mid-field player and vice-captain, qualified his appreciation. "With only three of us behind them, we have to work a bit harder," he said, "but at least it keeps us fit." In the Mizuno and Sentinel stands, the home fans grew increasingly restless as Vale's collection of summer signings tried valiantly but failed miserably in getting to know each other. Adedola's 69th-minute goal signalled a startlingly early equaliser and the young lad wearing the No 9 shirt, with "Mills" printed on the back, was presumably none too pleased, either. Lee Mills had been sold to Bradford City for £1 million the day before.

"We've had a big change in personnel and it will take a bit of time to get the patterns and formations that we really want," John Rudge, the long-serving Vale manager, said. Pennans of Genoa, Real Oviedo and Go Ahead Eagles hung behind him on the walls of his small office, reminders of better times.

Only when the partly-closed Lorne Street stand, on which the press perch precariously in their Portakabin eyrie, is demolished and replaced will the redevelopment of Vale Park



Furlong: power and pace

have been completed. In which division Vale will then be competing is a question too loaded to contemplate, perhaps too hurtful to answer truthfully, in August.

There was little conclusive evidence on Saturday, Birmingham may subsequently flatter to deceive, Vale may integrate and accelerate. Yet perhaps one riddle was solved: the whereabouts of the henpecked former West Ham United and possible Aston Villa or Everton defender. One of the assistant referees, most definitely, was D Ursworth.

PORT VALE (4-4-2): P Marshall - M Carrivick, M Bridges, M Aspin, A Terwind (sub: R Macintosh, 40min) - D Adedola, S Yates, I Solly, J Simpson (sub: R Kouzes, 86) - M Foy, P Benda (sub: J McCune, 86). **BIRMINGHAM CITY (4-2-3):** Barnett - G A Abbot, M Johnson, S Chatwin - J McCree, M O'Connor, C Marsden - J Ndlovu (sub: M George, 39), D Adedola, Furlong (sub: N Forster, 86). Referee: S Matheson.

Barnsley unable to shake off that morning-after feeling

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Barnsley | 2 |
| West Bromwich Albion | 2 |

By STEPHEN WOOD

THE hangover lingers and Barnsley's renewal of acquaintance with life in the Nationwide League was anything but intoxicating. For supporters who revelled in adventure and binged on nine months in the FA Carling Premiership, West Bromwich Albion at Oakwell was something of a chore.

How to behave? Whoop and holler like madmen just to reinforce the nation's perception of "plucky" Barnsley? Or admit straightaway that there is serious work ahead to avoid a prolonged stay back in the first division. The fans tried hard but it was never going to be the same.

That Barnsley should be expected to set the pace in any league, though, is still a remarkable notion. As John Dennis, the chairman, said: "Three words usually associated with us at the start of the season are 'favoursites for relegation.' This year it is different."

The new player-manager, John Hendrie, now carries the weight of expectation. On returning from his summer holiday, the phone was ringing but Hendrie tried to ignore it as he sorted out his four children. The ringing persisted, so Hendrie gave in, and it was Dennis informing him that he had been chosen to succeed Danny Wilson.

"I'm glad we've got started now, glad there's no turning back," Hendrie said on Saturday. "I haven't been surprised by anything that's happened so far, I am really enjoying it."

One of his first tasks after settling into the manager's office was to persuade Arjan de Zeeuw to stay at the club and it was the Dutchman who headed both Barnsley goals - the second to rescue a point three minutes from time - from perfectly-delivered crosses by Darren Barnard.

These scoring efforts suggested that de Zeeuw had made a complete recovery from the operation to straighten a badly broken nose. His defence hinted that the general anaesthetic had not completely worn off. Although Hendrie pro-



Hendrie: hard road ahead

fessed himself "delighted" with the outcome, Barnsley were poor. The sweet passing and passion that were the key elements in their fight against relegation last season were largely absent.

Albion, by contrast, showed what a force they could become. A nice balance and sound organisation are complemented by the special qualities of Richard Snodgrass, James Quinn and Kevin Kilbane. Snodgrass, a carbon copy of Emmanuel Petit, gave the West Midlands club the

lead after 13 minutes with a stunning right-foot volley, and Kilbane, a winger coveted by Leeds United, created the second for Quinn with his best run and cross of the day.

"The players were bitterly disappointed not to win," Dennis Smith, the Albion manager, said. "But I liked that because it showed me how much they care and how badly they want success."

If Smith can conclude deals that will bring two Italians, Enzo Mancosa and Mario Borzot, to the Hawthornes, they could spring some surprises.

Barnsley supporters have dubbed Wilson's departure to Sheffield Wednesday as "Darnygate", and Hendrie, a terrace hero, is the only anti-dote they have for their bitterness. Hendrie, a novice at the management game, will need all their support and a large measure of good fortune to fulfil expectations.

BARNLEY (4-4-2): D Wilson - N Easton, B Zulueta, A Moresco, S Jones - R van der Lee, A Lusher, K Richardson, D Berrand - J Hendrie (sub: M Balfour, 67min), G Haslett (sub: J A Fenwick, 35). **WEST BROMWICH ALBION (4-2-2):** A Miller - P Marsden, S Murphy, M Chatwin, J van Blerk - J Quinn, S Flynn, R Snodgrass, K Kilbane - M Daniels, I Hughes. Referee: E Wolstenholme.

Watford ease into the fast lane

| | |
|------------|---|
| Portsmouth | 1 |
| Watford | 2 |

By PETER ROBINSON

THE traffic down the A3 was horrendous, full of impatient families heading for the beach. They queued through Hindhead, then again down the Eastern Road as AA men ministered to the hot and bothered and hundreds split out of the pubs clutching lagers. It could all mean only one thing - the start of the football season.

No matter that summer was finally here or that England were battling to win a Test match, the fixture list decreed that Portsmouth would play Watford in the first division of the Nationwide League. It seemed crazy, everybody would be on holiday, surely, yet supporters duly appeared, sweating in their replica shirts, debating the loss of Atherton to the first ball of the day.

The World Cup may have wound up only weeks before but the chance to yell "Alan Ball's blue and white army" was too great to pass up. Then again, by tea-time on Saturday, a few thousand may

have wished they had gone for a paddle instead.

In the few, short weeks that football has been away, nothing has changed. Portsmouth are still not terribly good and the combination of Graham Taylor and Watford is still a lucky one.

Taylor, the Watford manager, may have been grinning afterwards, having seen his team, promoted last season, snatch a barely deserved victory, but he knew that the day did not belong to him. Jason Lee, he of the legendary pineapple, now sadly of the shaven head, had in Taylor's words: "Scored the winning goal in a game in which he should not have played. There's your gentleman."

Specifically, had Mitchell Ngongue, a Zaire international signed in the close season, been fit, he would have played rather than Lee, who apparently does not see eye to eye with his manager. Instead, after a clumsy afternoon, he scored with a textbook far-post header.

Portsmouth had taken the lead through John Aloisi's lovely 20-yarder after 23 minutes, only to concede a sloppy equaliser with 11 minutes left when Hyde's aimless through ball bounced off the top of Thompson's head

and over Flahavan. Shortly afterwards, Bazeley escaped down the right to set up Lee for his winner.

Quite what the season holds for both teams is difficult to judge after just one match, but neither is likely to challenge for promotion. Portsmouth look no better than last season, while Taylor, the Watford manager, is looking long-term.

"This division is the easiest to get relegated from and the hardest to get promoted from," he said, "so we are going to take our time and hopefully we'll be knocking on the door in three years. We haven't gone out and spent millions on players because I don't think a club like ours should get promotion through a cheque book."

"We haven't sold anyone either in the close season because I believe that the players who won promotion deserve at least the chance to show they can play at a higher level. If they can't, well, then at least they have had the opportunity."

Rioch profits as Crewe count cost

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Norwich City | 2 |
| Crewe Alexandra | 1 |

By BRIAN GLANVILLE

AFTER a dire beginning, this game suddenly, if somewhat crudely, came to life around the half-hour, when chances were missed, three avoidable goals were scored, and Norwich City went on to win.

Norwich bought no new players at all in the close season, though they acquired a new coach in Bruce Rioch, who told us that it was great to have the adrenalin flowing again on the training ground and that he could have come back to management a lot earlier, had family matters not prevented him.

Crewe Alexandra, as usual, had to sell several players and Dario Gradi, their talented, long-suffering coach, remarked: "You can't sell a man for a million and not feel it."

Feel it Crewe unquestionably did for most of the first half at Carrow Road when, as Gradi, with typical honesty, admitted that their defence let them down badly. "We weren't good enough at the back," he said.

Neither of the centre halves coped in the first half, they got the run around. We were trying to let them come at us a bit in the heat, and get them on the break with our little players."

Instead, a comedy of errors gave Norwich chance after chance and, eventually, a couple of goals. But the game was not over at half-time after which, when players finally began to settle down, ceased to bang the ball anywhere and give it away less frequently, Crewe actually forced three admirable saves from Andy Marshall, the Norwich goalkeeper. Jason Kearton, the Crewe goalkeeper, had no save to make at all.

Lack of finishing power, Gradi felt, was Norwich's weakness. Rioch, for his part, said: "We got ourselves into positions where, had we not missed the pass, we would have been through."

Liverpool out of the FA Cup. Stubbins, Liddell and all. This game was the 27th minute, when Craig Bellamy, the quick, slight, little 19-year-old Norwich striker, might have scored twice.

First, taking a pass from Sutcliffe, he shot for the narrow angle on the right, Kearton saving at the near post. Almost at once, after Walton had blundered, Bellamy ran on to the loose ball, but put it over from close range.

Crewe, however, were prodigal in their generosity. After 31 minutes Sutcliffe, now finding the range, sent a fine, long pass to the left. There, it found Bellamy, culpably unmarked, with ample time to control the ball and direct it into the opposite corner of the goal.

Five minutes later, and within the same minute, two goals arrived. Darren Kenton,

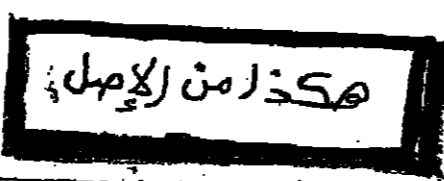


Gradi: let down by defence

the adventurous Norwich left back and another 19-year-old, made it 2-0, when Rioch let him in along the line. But almost at once, Crewe responded, Jackson slicing at a cross and Mark Rivers forcing his way through to score.

How nearby Rivers saved the game for Crewe, after 86 minutes, when a cross from Jermaine Wright completely split the home defence, only for Marshall to plunge to make a gallant save on his line. Previously, the Norwich goalkeeper had tipped over a long shot from Johnson, and a header by Rivers.

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): A Marshall - D Sutcliffe, M Jackson, C Fleming, D Keane - P Grant, M Adams, S Carey, D Eadie - K O'Halloran. **CREWE ALEXANDRA (2-2-2):** S Smith, C Leighton (sub: L Unsworth, 76min), D Wallace - M Dorsett, J Wright, S Johnson (sub: P Chalmers, 77), J Klent, C Little - M Rivers, K Street (sub: P Smith, 67). Referee: S B. Birrell.



CRICKET

One day makes the difference as Essex ease home

By RUPERT COX

CHELMSFORD (Essex won toss): Essex (4pts) beat Glamorgan by eight wickets

IN STARK contrast to their championship form — they face the growing prospect of finishing bottom for the second time in their history — Essex are proving rather sterner opponents in one-day cricket. Yesterday the Benson and Hedges Cup winners maintained their status at the top of the Axa League table with a convincing victory over Glamorgan.

their dominant form with a polished display that is liable to condemn Glamorgan to life in National League division two next summer. With the triangular tournament due to start at Trent Bridge on Friday, and England due to take on the Sri Lanka, the world champions, at Lord's on Sunday, Ronnie Irani has again exhibited his credentials. As is wont of the selectors, all-rounders are liable to be at the forefront of their minds, and given that Irani is enjoying his best season, Essex folk anticipate his inclusion.

themselves, yesterday, as he removed Michael Powell and Robert Croft in his first over. Croft's dismissal reduced the visitors to 46 for five in the 14th over. That Glamorgan managed to eke out any sort of total owed much to a first half-century in senior cricket by Ismail Dawood, and breezy contributions from Andrew Davies and Darren Thomas. Coaching his tail-end partners, Dawood, 22 and already a veteran of three counties, improvised to effect three fours from 68 balls.

Small revival gives degree of success

By PAT GIBSON

LORDS (Middlesex won toss): Warwickshire (4pts) beat Middlesex by six wickets

JUST in case people have forgotten who bowled England to victory the last time they won a major Test series, Gladstone Small gave them a timely reminder yesterday by taking five for 18, his best figures in 200 matches in the Axa League and all its previous guises. In fact, Brown managed more runs than anybody — 28 off 56 balls — but he began a slide for Middlesex to 102 all out when he exposed Langer to Penney's lightning pick-up and throw and accelerated it when he top-edged to the wicketkeeper to present Small with his first wicket in a spell of five for eleven.

admit, however, that the pitch, dry, cracked and loose in parts, was totally unsuitable for a game of this sort. Keith Brown had chosen it as his benefit match, in front of around 5,000 spectators. But they were all let down by a surface which was absolutely hopeless for strokeplay. Lord's should surely be capable of producing better. In fact, Brown managed more runs than anybody — 28 off 56 balls — but he began a slide for Middlesex to 102 all out when he exposed Langer to Penney's lightning pick-up and throw and accelerated it when he top-edged to the wicketkeeper to present Small with his first wicket in a spell of five for eleven.

Lancashire lifted by Wasim

By RICHARD HOBSON

OLD TRAFFORD (Lancashire won toss): Lancashire (4pts) beat Gloucestershire by 71 runs

WHATEVER his frustrations with the politics of cricket in Pakistan, Wasim Akram seems content with life at Old Trafford. A collection for his benefit appeal raised £800 yesterday and he repaid contributors with an innings of sustained aggression that turned a hitherto balanced Axa League game decisively. From 108 for four after 30 overs, Lancashire scored 114 from the remaining ten as Gloucestershire proved unable to counter Wasim at his most audacious. He struck 75 not out, his best score in the competition, from just 42 balls, with six sixes and five fours, dominating a partnership of 99 for the fifth wicket with Neil Fairbrother.

Although Gloucestershire did not slip irrevocably behind the required rate in pursuit of a target of 223 until the final stages, they lost too many good wickets in the first half of the reply. Considering Lancashire were without Atherton and Flintoff, and England duty, and John Crawley, who has tendinitis in the right elbow, an unexpected concern before the NatWest Trophy semi-final against Hampshire tomorrow, this was quite a success. They have lost only once in 11 limited overs games at their headquarters this season, and remain level on points with Essex at the top of the table. Three of their final four matches are away, however, including the last, under floodlights at Trent Bridge. If Wasim played the most

attractive innings yesterday, then it did not downgrade the effort of Fairbrother. The smaller of the two left-handers provided a stabilising influence alongside Mckewen, Lloyd and Watkinson, who all fell playing aggressive strokes. He edged Smith within an inch of the diving Russell when on eight, but proceeded to a fourth successive half-century in limited over competitions before Smith dropped him on 54. By the time Fairbrother was run out at the bowler's end for 76, from 101 balls, Wasim had pulled five of his sixes, three off Alleyne and two against Smith, to yank Lancashire beyond 200. For the sake of variety, he then drove Alleyne over extra cover. After maintaining a tight line and length, the Gloucestershire bowlers gave Wasim too much width. Walsh, in his second spell, was a surprising offender. Lancashire had a strong total to defend and simply waited for the visitors to err.

Ball offered a high, hanging catch to Hegg when he attempted to hook Austin and Alleyne gave the wicketkeeper a second catch when a ball from Martin rose and left him in the net over. When Martin himself took a tumbling catch at third man to account for Russell, Gloucestershire were 45 for four. Dawson had played some crisp shots in his 39 and Hewson and Hancock added 44 for the sixth wicket to keep the innings moving. But, despite further blows from Hancock, the loss of Hewson to a fine catch by Martin left Gloucestershire beyond recovery.

Hampshire slip from earlier high

By IVO TENNANT

CANTERBURY (Kent won toss): Kent (4pts) beat Hampshire by seven wickets

HAMPSHIRE were unable to raise their game yesterday. They did so in reaching the NatWest semi-finals, a splendid achievement, but barely managed to give Kent a contest in this Axa League match. Their upper order fell away against Dean Headley and Julian Thompson, and their bowlers had insufficient runs with which to try to contain their opponents. The match was effectively lost and won when the Hampshire upper order were out for 19. They did not think much of the pitch, and it is true that there was some unevenness of bounce. Even so, a total of 137 was 60 or so runs short of an acceptable score, as Kent emphasised when Ed Smith and Ward in turn biffed their way towards victory.

Lewis back in limited role

By MICHAEL AUSTIN

LEICESTER (Somerset won toss): Leicestershire (4pts) beat Somerset by five runs

CHRIS LEWIS, absent from the past two championship games, played for Leicestershire purely as a batsman against Somerset at Grace Road yesterday, a role he may repeat in the NatWest Trophy semi-final against Derbyshire on Wednesday. Lewis has undergone a back scan and the initial diagnosis was that the injury was not improving. As a temporary batting specialist, he made 25, enabling Leicestershire to reach 165 for seven on a poor pitch for a one-day match. It was a taut contest, imbued with extra tension because both counties had lost.

stand in mid-table where the Axa League will be split into two divisions of the National League next season. The significance had not been lost on Leicestershire, who were challenging for the leadership earlier in the summer. Rose took three wickets, including that of Lewis, caught and bowled, a return later emulated in one spell for Leicestershire by Ormond, who dismissed Treschock. Burns and Rose in eight balls without cost. Somerset tumbled to 66 for five before Lathwell made 36 from 51 balls and shared a half-century partnership with Parsons in 15 overs. Parsons followed Lathwell's lead, though he was dropped on one by Nixon of Wells.

Other meritorious batting in difficult conditions came from Wells and Williamson for Leicestershire, while Nixon completed 100 league catches at the wicket when outstung Burns. Lean times continued for others with Maddy being run out by Harden's throw from deep mid-off. He has scored only 101 runs during 11 innings in the competition this season. Harden also ran out Dalkin with the game's most inspirational flash of fielding when he made a stunning pick-up at short mid-wicket and hit the batsman's stumps as he advanced in search of a single.

Adams inspires Sussex

By JACK BAILEY

EASTBOURNE (Sussex won toss): Sussex (4pts) beat Durham by seven wickets

SUSSEX completed a handsome double during Eastbourne Week when they defeated Durham in this Axa League match with nearly five overs to spare. Chris Adams, who can do little wrong in these parts, played a match-winning innings of 73 after Durham had mustered only 156 for nine against a Sussex team that bowled and fielded well in the context of the 40-over format. Possibly the best batting of the day was seen when Adams and Robin Martin-Jenkins were adding 53 for Sussex's second wicket, after Rao had fallen in the first over of the innings.

Adams went on to hit three sixes, while Michael Bevan followed a bewitching spell of bowling by seeing his team home after Adams had played one extravagant stroke too many. Apart from a commanding innings from John Morris, Durham could thank Martin Speight and Paul Collingwood for their barely respectable total. Morris advanced on the quicker bowlers, intimidating with his burly figure and power of stroke. The fast-medium Mark Robinson was hoisted high over extra cover onto the

squash court roof. That stroke took Morris to 40 out of the first 52 run scored for the loss of Boon and Speight, who both fell to Edwards, who at that stage had not conceded a run. But just as Morris and Speight seemed to have matters under control, Morris was taken brilliantly at short extra cover. Thereafter, only Speight and Collingwood could get to grips with Kirtley's speed or Bevan's chinamen, and googlies. They lost their last five wickets in four overs as they hustled for a respectable total. On the face of it, Sussex were left with a simple task. It was never that but once Adams got under way, the outcome was seldom in doubt.

Solanki hits form to reverse tide

By THRASY PETROPOULOS

WORCESTER (Nottinghamshire won toss): Worcester (4pts) beat Nottinghamshire by seven wickets

IT IS at this stage of the season that Worcestershire traditionally string together the victories that see them leapfrog other counties in the shake-up for honours. Their more immediate priority yesterday, however, was to put an end to a run of five successive defeats in both the Axa League and British Assurance county championship. This victory, over a Nottinghamshire side that overwhelmed them by 90 runs in the championship on Saturday, will therefore have come as some relief. A top-half finish in the Axa League and qualification for the first division of the National League next year remains a significant attraction. If their bowlers perform with the discipline they showed yesterday, there is little to suggest that they will not achieve that comfortably. Worcestershire's difficulties this season have come principally from the inconsistency of their batsmen, and it was fitting that the decisive innings in this match came from Vikram Solanki, a player of undoubted talent but who had failed to score a run in his past three innings. Solanki stroked his way to 88 from 96 balls, with seven fours and an effortless straight six off Tolley, before he was run out with the scores level in the 32nd over. He had shared stands of 81 with Latherterdale and 61 with Moody.

The Nottinghamshire innings was memorable only for a fighting innings of 53 from 73 balls by Paul Johnson as they struggled for fluency on a slow, seaming pitch. Fortunately to be dropped by Rhodes when he had made ten, Johnson completed 6,000 runs in this competition before he was run out.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score. Includes Northamptonshire v Sri Lanka (166-7), Kent v Hampshire (137-7), Leicestershire v Somerset (165-7), Lancashire v Gloucestershire (223-5), Essex v Warwickshire (149-6), Middlesex v Warwickshire (110-9), Gloucestershire v Lancashire (114-9), Somerset v Leicestershire (66-5), Kent v Canterbury (137-7), Sussex v Durham (156-9), Nottinghamshire v Worcester (156-9).

Table with 2 columns: Player, Runs/Wickets. Includes Northamptonshire v Sri Lanka (Small 5, Sri Lanka 100), Kent v Hampshire (Headley 40, Kent 137), Leicestershire v Somerset (Lewis 25, Somerset 66), Lancashire v Gloucestershire (Wasim 75, Lancashire 223), Essex v Warwickshire (Small 5, Essex 149), Middlesex v Warwickshire (Small 5, Middlesex 110), Gloucestershire v Lancashire (Wasim 75, Lancashire 223), Somerset v Leicestershire (Lewis 25, Somerset 66), Kent v Canterbury (Headley 40, Kent 137), Sussex v Durham (Adams 73, Sussex 156), Nottinghamshire v Worcester (Solanki 88, Nottinghamshire 156).

Table with 2 columns: Player, Runs/Wickets. Includes Kent v Hampshire (Headley 40, Kent 137), Essex v Warwickshire (Small 5, Essex 149), Middlesex v Warwickshire (Small 5, Middlesex 110), Gloucestershire v Lancashire (Wasim 75, Lancashire 223), Somerset v Leicestershire (Lewis 25, Somerset 66), Kent v Canterbury (Headley 40, Kent 137), Sussex v Durham (Adams 73, Sussex 156), Nottinghamshire v Worcester (Solanki 88, Nottinghamshire 156).

Table with 2 columns: Player, Runs/Wickets. Includes Gloucestershire v Lancashire (Wasim 75, Lancashire 223), Lancashire v Gloucestershire (Wasim 75, Lancashire 223), Somerset v Leicestershire (Lewis 25, Somerset 66), Kent v Canterbury (Headley 40, Kent 137), Sussex v Durham (Adams 73, Sussex 156), Nottinghamshire v Worcester (Solanki 88, Nottinghamshire 156).

Table with 2 columns: Player, Runs/Wickets. Includes Middlesex v Warwickshire (Small 5, Middlesex 110), Gloucestershire v Lancashire (Wasim 75, Lancashire 223), Somerset v Leicestershire (Lewis 25, Somerset 66), Kent v Canterbury (Headley 40, Kent 137), Sussex v Durham (Adams 73, Sussex 156), Nottinghamshire v Worcester (Solanki 88, Nottinghamshire 156).

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Prichard: 99 not out

Sri Lanka flatter to deceive yet again

By BARNEY SPENDER

NORTHAMPTON (Sri Lanka won toss): Sri Lanka (4pts) beat Northamptonshire by 16 runs

WITH their first match in the one-day triangular series just around the corner, the Sri Lanka stepped up their preparations with a second narrow win in three days at Watling Road. But, when taken with their one-wicket victory in the first game on Friday, they are fooling themselves if they think that they will beat South Africa at Trent Bridge playing like this. Led by Sanath Jayasuriya, who made a splendid 119, they were irrepresible with the bat, pummeling the bowling from the start. It was joyful stuff, and should have etched itself on the memories of the children who took advantage of the free entry being offered on Northamptonshire's Family Day.

The old doubts about Sri Lanka's bowling remain, however. Pramodya Wickramasinghe kept a tight line early on to remove Kevin Curran and Rob Bailey, but the remainder were not so impressive as the home batsmen made a magnificent effort to reach a daunting target of 309. The Sri Lanka bowlers were dismissed by Muttiah Muralitharan and Ravindra Pushpakumara, who look certain to play on Friday, but if South Africa or England had been chasing the runs, you would have backed the batsmen. Jayasuriya and Romesh Kaluwitharana ruttled up 100 in the fifteenth over against an attack lacking both Devon Malcolm and Franklin Rose, and when Kaluwitharana jumped down the pitch to Graeme Swann and was stumped, he was replaced by Aravinda de Silva, who helped to add 125 in 22 overs for the second wicket. Jayasuriya was given two lives, but otherwise played with authority and wristy inventiveness. He reached his century from 102 balls before departing to a top edge off Jeremy Snape. His 119 included 16 fours.

Dawson had played some crisp shots in his 39 and Hewson and Hancock added 44 for the sixth wicket to keep the innings moving. But, despite further blows from Hancock, the loss of Hewson to a fine catch by Martin left Gloucestershire beyond recovery.

Head...

Donald pro...

Inspired Gough ends Rhodes's defiance to put England within sight of famous victory

Headingley epic remains on knife edge

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

HEADINGLEY (fourth day of five): South Africa, with two second-innings wickets in hand, need 34 runs to beat England

THERE were heroes everywhere at Headingley yesterday but still no winners. It was a day to drain emotions and quicken pulses, a day of which cricket could be immensely proud, but at the end of it England and South Africa were both still scrapping for supremacy in this remarkable Cornhill series.

The teams had punched and counterpunched almost to a standstill but, when the statutory overs expired, it remained in the balance. With more than 10,000 people in the ground and the sun shining, it seemed almost a crime to defer judgment and, intriguingly, South Africa were willing to play an extra half-hour. England demurred and the finale must be saved for this morning, when admission will be free and tension almost unbearable.

This was a day that had everything. First we saw Nasser Hussain's tenacious batting trumped by the supreme bowling of Allan Donald. Next, seeking 219 to win, South Africa tottered feebly to 27 for five before a stand of 117 between Jonty Rhodes and Brian McMillan turned this day again. Then the final twist as Darren Gough, roared on by his home crowd, bowled England close to triumph.

Gough had always believed he was close to his best this summer and here was the fulfilment. He had taken three for seven either side of lunch and he returned to dismiss the defiant Rhodes to end the day with five for 36.

Nowhere was the precar-

iousness of the match better portrayed than in the face of Hussain as he dragged himself from the field at noon after being dismissed for 94. It was not a lost century that he mourned as he wiped tears from his eyes. It was the knowledge that he had left the job incomplete.

Hussain has not played a better innings for England and may never do so. Yesterday morning, he was unbeaten on 83. England were 206 for four and some premature triumphalism was creeping into columns and conversation. Hussain had seen too many instances of frailty to be taken in by such talk.

Ian Salisbury, having done his duty as nightwatchman, lasted no longer than the second ball. The departure of Graeme Hick and Andrew Flintoff, in a single over from Donald, meant that England had begun the day by losing three wickets for one.

The single was scored by Hick, with the cut shot that has betrayed him three times in the past week. David Lloyd, fidgeting on the team balcony, clasped in open relief but, an over later, the coach's face was blank and Hick's torment as a clever, slower ball from Donald was shoved flat-footedly to cover. It might be the last stroke he ever plays in a Test match.

One hopes the same can never be said of Flintoff and that he will retain his lack of inhibition despite completing a pair as Donald confused him with another slower one.

Hussain broke the spell by cover-driving Donald for four and took the lead above 200 before mistiming a drive against Pollock, and spooning the ball to Cronje at mid-off.

For a time, nothing lifted the

gloom. Cork berated himself as Donald drew him into a false shot then Gough, whose batting continues to dismay, flashed a catch to third slip. England had lost six wickets for 34 in the first 85 minutes of the day. In this series, their last five wickets have fallen for fewer than 30 on five occasions, and that is five times more than South Africa.

The mitigation, yesterday, was the quality of the bowling. Pollock has been exemplary throughout this game and Donald, having resorted to a painful injection in his troublesome heel, was back at his magnificent best. His morning spell of four for 14 gave him 33 wickets in the series at 19.78 apiece.

England would have felt comfortable with 30 runs more. As it was, they needed an early incision and exceeded their wildest hopes. The troubled Liebenberg had gone before lunch, though to yet another questionable leg-before decision, and with the score stuck on 12 South Africa lost their three most likely match-winners.

Kirsten sliced a drive to gully, Kallis was leg-before as he moved across his crease and Cronje was caught behind, a verdict greeted with such disbelief that he virtually laughed his way back to the dressing-room.

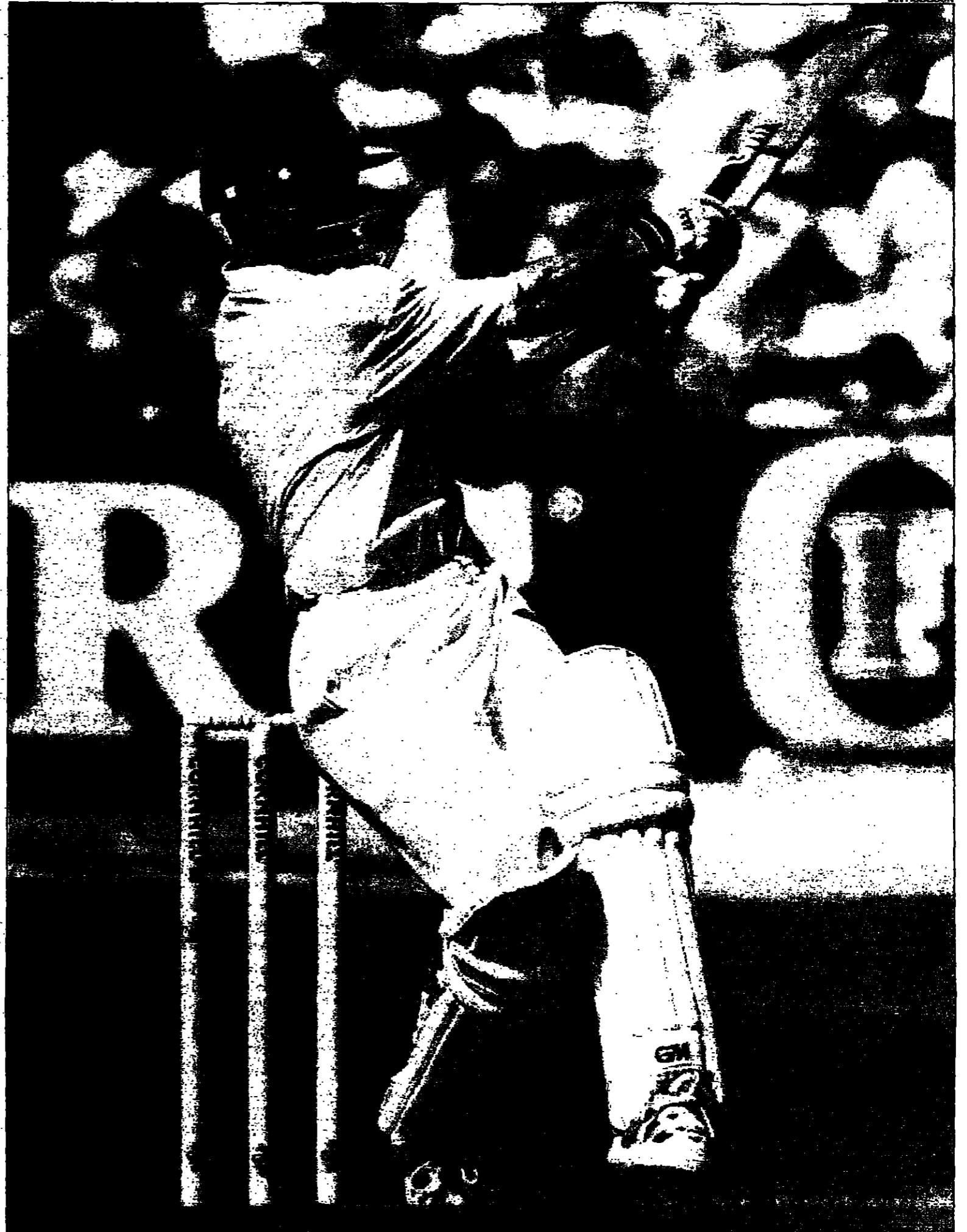
When Gough won another leg-before about to remove Cullinan, 11 wickets had fallen in the day's play for only 61 runs. England, it seemed, simply had to win. But Rhodes and McMillan are among the toughest fighters in the game.

In Sydney, five years ago, Rhodes turned a Test match that looked lost with an unbeaten 75, and he threatened to do the same now. Stoical in support was the giant McMillan, called into the side here when he believed his Test career to be over.

As the pitch entered one of its less responsive phases and Alec Stewart ran through his limited options with increasing anxiety, this pair took their country to within 75 of a quite astonishing victory before McMillan top-edged a pull against Cork, who celebrated with unseemly glee.

England sighted victory again and, after 23 more had been chad out, they became firm favourites as Rhodes, wearily mistiming a clip off his legs, was caught by Flintoff, deliberately short at mid-wicket.

This was Gough's 99th wicket for his country and surely his most important. The century was completed with another leg-before decision against Boucher. Two more, this morning, would doubtless earn him the freedom of all England.



Rhodes, who lifted South Africa off the floor with the help of the sturdy McMillan, pulls Fraser for four during his doughty innings of 85

SCOREBOARD FROM HEADINGLEY

Table with 2 columns: England and South Africa. Rows show batsmen and bowlers with their runs, wickets, and overs. Includes a 'FALL OF WICKETS' section.

Table with 2 columns: South Africa and England. Rows show batsmen and bowlers with their runs, wickets, and overs. Includes a 'FALL OF WICKETS' section.

Donald proves to be a winner before final ball is bowled

Until Darren Gough spread his peacock feathers last night, no man had done more to help England to win this match than Angus Fraser. What a game-old bird he is. He has taken life's rewards and buffets philosophically (if not always uncomplainingly) and has survived them all. Now, having done so much to belong, finally, to a winning England team, along came Allan Donald yesterday morning to dash the flowing cup from his lips. Which one will sup deepest today?

What performers they are, these two, in their different ways. Donald has been magnificent this summer, looking every inch the great fast bowler that he is. After firing out England with one final act of brilliance, defying the heel injury that has troubled him all season, he should perhaps have gone on a victory lap to remind those silly people on the Western Terrace who berated him when he came out to bat the other day just who was cock. Today, this princely bowler starts with the bat in his hand.

Michael Henderson on two great competitors in a thrilling contest

When the spoils of victory lay spread out before them like an emperor's jewels. They could have come to Leeds with a 3-0 lead and they could leave with another series narrowly lost.

You've got to tip your chapeau to Fraser. Over dinner with his great mate, Atherton on the eve of the Trent Bridge Test, he doubted that he would play. "You get a feeling", he said, leaving the rest unsaid. He admitted trying harder than usual in the nets that day, and the next, to remind people that he still had a part to play.



Fraser removes Cronje yesterday in a personal triumph

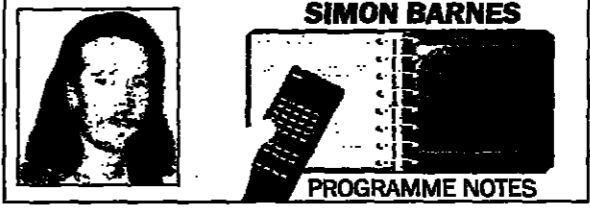
Revival of passion play that is almost beyond belief

And so to the Gaffer, to Alec Stewart, a man with at least some of the quality of Botham-esque credulity. We have watched him all summer with his sleeves nattily buttoned at the cuffs, a captain positively bursting with the belief that he can do every single job by himself.

Exciting if not like a man inspired then at least like a man possessed, Stewart carried the day in the previous Test match in the company of Atherton, who reformed personal belief in the relinquishing of the captaincy and of his need to believe for everybody else.

We have watched Stewart keeping wicket and, more to the point, we have heard him doing so. He has greeted every ball bowled as a masterpiece of the bowler's art: you will believe in yourself, even if I have to do it for you.

He came to this final and decisive Test match with the majority of his team suffering from lack of belief. A good Test player is adamant in his self-belief: too many of this England team have had to battle personal demons. Lacking belief in self, they found it impossible to have faith in colleagues and in victory.



SIMON BARNES PROGRAMME NOTES

ing collapse, an epidemic of dropped catches, pitilessly caught in slow motion. It was hardly coincidence that two of the three chances were put down by those troubled souls Graeme Hick and Mark Ramprakash.

Television is merciless to professional athletes suffering a crisis in self-belief: and the slow but relentless pace of cricket makes a game such as



Stewart's confidence is beginning to rub off on his team

themselves as if they had fasted for a month. How many of the South Africa team would you actually want, if you made a team of all the talents between the two sides? Allan Donald, obviously, and Shaun Pollock. And... er, that's it. But the point is that they are a team without agonies: true believers all, believers in self, in colleagues, in the possibility of victory.

At 12 for four, and at 27 for five, Jonty Rhodes stayed possessed of a jaunty belief in everything a cricketer should believe in. Miracles come as a matter of course for a person of deep and real faith. It has been another wonderful Test match: and all about England wrestling with the demons of doubt.

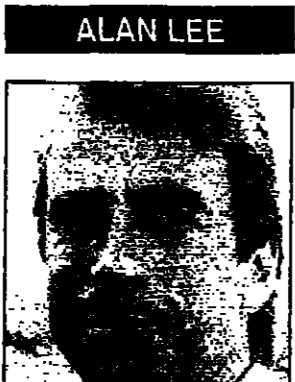
And as the match continued, we watched South Africa dealing with demons of their own, but then came the jaunty Rhodes fightback and that was something that defied belief. In fact, the only way to anchor the afternoon in reality was to remember that it was England playing cricket and, against England, we now assume that any opponent can do anything. Our own belief has been falling, but are we - could we possibly be - on the brink of regaining our faith?

Yesterday this brought us one of the most harrowing passages of cricket we have been able to watch in years. But what's wrong with being harrowed? To steal an epigram, there is surely enough happiness in real life without needing to turn to sport for it.

CRICKET

MaLaurin tries new approach in bid for reform

COUNTIES are to be asked to vote in December on a further and more radical reform of the domestic programme.



Championship Commentary

The timetable for the latest bid to streamline the game is now complete and MaLaurin revealed yesterday that he is consulting more extensively than previously before the two-day meeting of the First Class Forum.

very poor. The game stands or falls on the success of the national side and we must do all we can to ensure that our domestic cricket gives them the best possible chance.

The game stands or falls on the success of the national side

MaLaurin admits to strategic errors when the divisional championship was rejected last September and he is striving to ensure that his vision is implemented at the second attempt.

want to change it but it is in their gift to do so. By December, we should know details of the new television deal now being negotiated and that will allow us to talk money to the counties. They need numbers and they will get them.

A lot has changed since those decisions were taken last year," he said. "We didn't know we were going to lose Britannia Assurance as sponsors and we didn't know that Test match crowds would fall in the way they have. It is a serious situation and we cannot hide from it.

Ironically, the much derided proposal for a championship structured on three conferences, first put by MaLaurin last year, is being revived by the longest-serving county secretary, Mike Vockins, of Worcestershire, says he "always quite liked the idea" and is conducting an experiment with this summer's results.



Vockins: conference line

Table with columns: Team, W, L, D, B, P, Pts. Lists various counties and their performance.

(Last year's positions in brackets)

"I'm actually a supporter of the traditional championship but I was attracted by this as an alternative," Vockins said. "I set myself the exercise of seeing how it would work and I've found it very interesting. I have set up the conferences on the basis of last season's results and kept the tables up to date. The only artificial element is that matches between clubs in the same conference don't count, and would not even take place if the idea was adopted."

"One county chairman told me he had voted against it because he didn't understand it and I don't think that is a good reason for rejecting something. I make the comparison with the Duckworth-Lewis method of reassessing targets when it rains. Very few people understand it but almost everyone agrees that it works."

At regular intervals of the season, Vockins has contacted other secretaries and chief executives with conference tables and summaries. He concedes that the reaction has been lukewarm. "Peter Edwards, of Essex, did write to thank me for proving that it doesn't work. I think he was joking," he says.

Surrey now lead the table proper by 41 points and Leicestershire, in second place, are struggling to keep the contest alive until they meet Surrey at the Oval in the last week of the season. MaLaurin's anxiety over the championship, however, was fully endorsed by the fact that barely 500 people turned up at the Oval to see the leaders win on a sun-kissed Saturday.

Richard Hobson says rejection by selectors may lead to change of county.

Can Mal Loye do anything more to win a selectors' approval? If so, it is difficult to imagine what it might be. His batting average of 93 is the best in the country and his aggregate of 1119 runs in the Britannia Assurance county championship is the best among English players.

His style is as attractive as the statistics. In scoring 103 against Nottinghamshire recently, he twice eased the ball to the boundary off the back foot through a ring of cover fielders. The stroke is the preserve of a high-class batsman. Loye executed it perfectly.

Yet, he was not among the preliminary England squad of 37 players for the World Cup named last week. His one flirtation with international cricket came in 1993-94 on the A tour to South Africa, at the age of 20. Though in the form of his life, he has received no word from the England selectors, no informal reassurances.

A seed has been sown. Loye wonders whether he must move to further his ambitions. He was born in Northamptonshire, although his parents came from Northern Ireland, and feels an affinity to the county. But he has seen Nick Knight and Chris Adams advance after changing counties and suspects, with his contract expiring at the end of the season, that he must follow suit.

"I am not sure whether Northamptonshire is unfashionable, but as the season is progressing I have started to think that may be the case," Loye said. "I will have a very difficult decision in a couple

Loye's loyalty feeling the strain



Loye, outstanding for Northamptonshire, strangely overlooked by England.

of months or so. The way I can see the game changing is the big clubs getting more recognition — the Test grounds, basically."

Loye has learnt from past disappointments. Four years ago, he believed he was

already become cluttered by advice, his instinct lost. "I was told that as an opener I had to cover my stumps, and across and moving all around the crease. I was a prime candidate for lbw." A back injury curtailed his season. After lengthy treatment that included cortisone injections, Loye went to Australia realising that he could not justify selection on promise alone. In January he took up a position at North Perth, and worked on his technique with Peter Carlstein, a former South Africa Test batsman, in 2½ hour sessions, three times a week. It was the turning point.

"I do not want to bad-mouth English coaches, but my batting had got into such a state that it took a month just to get rid of the bad habits before I could start to build my game up again," Loye said. He practised against a tennis ball with a half-width bat, rediscovering how to stay still for as long as possible before getting into line with a first, decisive movement forward or backwards. Weekend grade cricket, he says, was of a higher standard than the English second XI game, but contested more aggressively than the championship. He swam a mile five times a week to exercise his back. Carlstein has remained in contact through a season in which Northamptonshire have suffered more than most with the weather. To compound those difficulties, critical comments by Allan Lamb, the former captain, have had a fractious effect. Loye, who admires aspects of Lamb's character, believes "a lot of it is the truth". The England selectors will do Northamptonshire a huge service if they pick Loye, now batting at No. 3, for the Test match against Sri Lanka later this month. They might be helping themselves, too.

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CONFERENCE

How the tables would look: Conference A... Conference B... Conference C... Table with columns: P, W, L, D, B, Pts. Lists various counties and their performance.

SATURDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Table with columns: County, Innings, Runs, Wickets. Lists scores for various counties like Surrey, Derbyshire, Worcestershire, etc.

Worcestershire v Nottinghamshire

Table with columns: Player, Runs, Wickets. Lists individual player performances for Worcestershire and Nottinghamshire.

Records fail to ease the tedium

THE first women's Test of the three-match Ashes series was billed to a draw at Guildford on Saturday and, as the captains agreed to draw stumps half an hour before the official close-of-play time, it was questionable whether either side had managed to score a psychological advantage. Australia benched England by choosing to continue with their first innings on the fourth and final day. The game was already consigned to a draw and keeping the home side toiling in the heat while the tourists piled on the runs to gain a 155-run lead was an understandable tactic. Their 569 for six declared broke yet another record —

beating the highest innings total in a women's Test, previously 525 made by Australia in 1984 against India. The game's three century-scorers all wrote their names into the archives: Jan Brittin, of England, became the most prolific Test batsman, Melanie Jones hit the highest score by a Test player making her debut and her team-mate, Joanne Broadbent, struck 200 for the highest individual innings total in Australian history. Not even these landmark innings, however, could mask the tedium of the draw. Australia wanted to end on top by taking a few England wickets.

Such was the dominance of bat over ball, though, that even the most potent attack in the world could manage just one breakthrough: Charlotte Edwards was bowled by Cathryn Fitzpatrick, but not before she had scored 77. By close of play the game had offered up more than 1,100 runs and just 17 wickets. Suggestions that Tests should be played over five days are not embraced by the England captain, Karen Smithies: "The women bowl something like 110 to 120 overs in a day," she said. "So I think, physically, five days would be too long. You can make a

game of it if you really want by declaring earlier, but to be honest, you could play for ten days on this track and maybe not get a result." John Harmer, the Australia coach, believes five days will not necessarily produce more results, even though his side won a five-day Test against England in Sydney in 1992. "The answer is to score more than two runs an over and be positive in your attitude," he said. "There are other ways to overcome the conditions and it's essential at this level of cricket to take your chances. We'll look at that before the second Test starts on Tuesday because it's an absolute ambition to go home with a win."

BOXING: SCARBOROUGH FEATHERWEIGHT AIMS TO BE READY IN 12 MONTHS

PAUL INGLE hopes to be in the ring with Naseem Hamed in 12 months' time, and the Scarborough featherweight is convinced that he will have improved sufficiently by then to beat him. Ingle proposes to have a world title to bring to the table. After his impressive win in the fourth round over Rakhim Mingaleev, a durable Ukrainian, in his home town on Saturday, Ingle believes he will have a world title by January or February. He plans to challenge Billy Hardy for the European title on September 26 in York, defend against Steve Robinson, the former World Boxing Organisation champion, in December

and then challenge yet another Hamed victim, Emanuel Medina, who holds the International Boxing Federation title. Every week, Ingle and Steve Pollard, his trainer, analyse Hamed's moves and devise tactics to overcome them. "I'm not going in there to look soft," Ingle said. "I'll only go in there when I know I'm on level terms. I'll be ready in 12 months." Frank Maloney, Ingle's promoter, wants to see how the Yorkshireman handles Robinson before making world title plans. "After he beats Robinson, I'll

England Star rises from a thousand casts. Advertisement for England cricket gear featuring a portrait of a player and promotional text.

England preparing to present united front



Baister: enthusiasm

ENGLAND'S leading clubs are positioned today to make a gesture that could soothe the months of nagging warfare that have blighted British rugby union since the introduction of professionalism. They could follow their French counterparts and return to European competition, on the understanding that reforms to the tournament are necessary and that a British and Irish league will offer a further valuable tier to the game in the northern hemisphere.

MEETINGS are scheduled today between the Rugby Football Union (RFU) and English First Division Rugby, and between RFU officials and their Welsh opposite numbers, designed to produce order from the chaos that still surrounds the domestic season in both countries. Those meetings could also establish, in principle, support for a British league, though time seems unlikely to permit such a competition to begin in the new season and there are indications that leading RFU officials themselves are split on the potential time frame.

David Hands, rugby correspondent, on the prospects for a British league

BRITISH clubs will still be subject to relegation and, if this gets off the ground for a one-off season, we will institute serious debate about sorting out the whole future of rugby in Europe below international level. It is a nonsense if England were not to participate in any event that involves other European or British clubs. There is still a strong possibility that England will participate in the European Cup this coming season.

BAISTER'S enthusiasm for a British league is matched by that of his Scottish counterparts, who need to find a competitive fixture list for their two "super clubs", Glasgow Caledonians and Edinburgh Reivers. However, Duncan Paterson, chairman of the Scottish Rugby Union executive, doubted whether such a league could be properly organised this season.

Paterson's committee agreed last Thursday that a British league was the way forward. "I can't see any downside," Paterson said. "If it was properly marketed, everyone would benefit financially and if it was accepted, alongside Europe, it could give us a similar structure to the southern hemisphere. They play at a level that is getting away from us, so it's crucial we get our club structure in place. The case for a British and Irish league is irrefutable. It would bring a period of stability within the game here and would improve playing standards."

But it would also take a huge effort to bolt such a league on to the existing structure while ensuring fair access to those clubs not initially involved. Schedules for the 1998-99 season would have to be completely overhauled at the eleventh hour, the agreement of sponsors and broadcasters acquired and new regulations drafted that allow for the fact that relegation applying to English competitors would not necessarily be the same for the Celtic countries, so as to ensure a continual presence from all four home unions.



Rowell: consortium

Alix Ramsay joins the thousands of angling enthusiasts who are hooked on Fish'O'Mania

Star rises from a thousand casts

YOU may have heard this somewhere before but, trust me, it is true: size is not important. Really, it is not the size of what you have got that matters, but how many of them and, on Saturday, Steve Ringer had lots, far more than anyone else. He had so many that he romped home to win the fifth Motor World Fish'O'Mania title and bank a £25,000 cheque.

Fish'O'Mania may not be the traditionalists' idea of what angling is all about, but with 2,700 hopefuls around the country attempting to qualify as one of the 18 finalists — known as the Big 18 — it is awfully popular. The competition was devised by Barry Hearn and his Matchroom organisation had been advertising the fact that 15,000 spectators would come to Hayfield Lakes, near Doncaster, to watch the action. It seemed unlikely that so many would come to see so few sitting at the water's edge, drowning worms for five hours, but come the day, come the crowd. They flocked in and every one of them knew a lot about fish.



The event attracted sporting celebrities, including Steve Davis, who swapped his snooker cue for a fishing rod and the chance to show off his angling skills

only by the quacking of an argumentative duck and the only people whipping themselves into a frenzy were the Sky television crews running around looking for something to film. To add an extra element of tension to the cut and thrust of competition, there were half-hourly weigh-ins with the performance of each member of the Big 18 monitored on a giant leaderboard. Unfortunately, this served only to kill the contest stone dead as Ringer shot into the lead and stayed there for the rest of the day. By 11am Billy Knott Jr, "The Angler's Bookie", had stopped taking bets on the man from Northampton. As Ringer already had more than 11 kilograms of carp in his keep-net, there was not much point in betting on anybody else.

Ringer came to Doncaster as the favourite for the past three years. In his first final when he was only 19, he had missed the first prize by a mere four ounces. In Fish'O'Mania, however, the winner takes all, second place means nothing and earns no more than a pat on the back and a bottle of champagne. Three years ago Ringer was devastated. It took him months to recover, but this time he knew he had a chance. "If the carp were feeding, I knew I could do it," he said in that relaxed, confident way that champions have. "I got the peg I wanted and I was casting 65 yards over to the island using a method feeder with luncheon meat and maggots. I caught on both — and I knew that if you can get within a yard of the island, you're not going to get anything. No one else really

got far enough over and, anyway, the carp only fed for the first two hours, but I was far enough ahead by then." The island was the key. The fish took one look at the 15,000 people who had come to watch and swam to it, heading for peace and quiet in the middle of the lake. To draw a peg opposite there meant easy pickings — if, of course, you knew what you were doing. Ringer knew and for five hours he cast with monotonous regularity to a spot the size of a cigarette packet by the island bank. Every few minutes he hauled out another carp.

"He's caught more in the last ten minutes than I have all year," came a voice from the crowd. Not that the men on the neighbouring pegs heard as Barry Oliver, Anthony Sparrow and Andre Grandjean failed to hit Ringer's carp mine and plinged away with their own tactics. "He wants to go left of where he's casting," another local expert offered, eyeing the efforts of Sparrow. "There's a lift hole by that point. The fish like that hole. They sit in that hole. That's where he wants to be casting him."

It seemed everyone was an expert willing to offer local knowledge, hints and tips to anyone who cared to listen. Even the young bloods, shirtless, tattooed and magnificently earringed, stood clutching bargain bags of ground bait and looking longingly at the reels and rods on show. Ringer's peg had a large crowd around it, but there were many more spectators spread along the bank keeping an eye out for possible contenders. Only Colin Holdcroft's peg was sparsely populated. In the first four hours he had caught only 100 grams and even his staunchest supporters, two ladies of generous proportions, had stopped talking fish and were discussing medical conditions in quite staggering detail. Meanwhile, Holdcroft flung yet more bait into the lake while the fish, now sated with all the food, staggered next door and fished themselves, thankfully, onto the hook of Glenn Lawrence.



Ringer, the champion, shows off his prize-winning catch

Headingley's bad name

From Mr Robert Whitaker
Sir, Again I find myself disappointed by the Times's coverage of the events and supporters of Headingley's Western Terrace. Having seen first hand the thuggery and arbitrary bullying carried out by the phalanxes of security (or should that be insecurity?) guards, none of whom seemed to have the vaguest comprehension of the passions aroused by the finest game in the world, I would suggest that the "hooligans" — football or otherwise — worthy of exclusion should be these nightclub bouncers, and not those who question the rights and wrongs of a policy which denies the "cheap seats" the pleasure of a part of Teley's on a summer's afternoon. I am as disappointed as the next fan at the ceaseless chanting of the Barney Army and their alcohol-inspired impersonations, but sensitive policing of the situation on an individual basis, rather than wholesale restrictions reminiscent of inept school teachers is surely the way forward. Michael Henderson furthers the cause of such diverse reasoning and implicitly supports the class divisions upon which cricket

Drug tests for men in white coats?

From Mr Tim Barasley
Sir, As a keen village cricketer I would like to place on record what I see as an alarming trend among umpires. For some years I have noticed that players and ex-players who smoke cigarettes are almost indecently quick to offer their services when an umpire is required. I have long surmised that they see this as a rare opportunity to spend a couple of hours smoking peacefully without being nagged by their loved ones. Recently however, during a typically obdurate opening innings, I had reached a chanceless 24 when I noticed that not one but

Time for umpires

From Mr John B. Harris
Sir, The best use that could be made of video-replay equipment at Test matches would be to monitor the front foot no-ball, law, and relieve the umpires of that duty. At present, with a fast-medium bowler an umpire has a bare

98 not out

From Mr Stan Johnson
Sir, Whilst many thought Michael Atherton unlucky to

Beckham's sin

From Mr David Comyns
Sir, After the nation's disgust at David Beckham's behaviour on the field during the World Cup, how can Glenn Hoddle justify including him in the squad for the European championship qualifying matches? And how can Beckham himself, in his first public comment since that game, say that

Coral and racing's good

From Mr Warwick Bartlett
Sir, So the battle for Coral is being reduced to a judgment about whether the public interest or the punter's private interest of racing is more important? That is the thrust of the BHB's cynical representations to Peter Mandelson. These are motivated by the notion that a deal now between Ladbrokes and the Tote will deliver greater income to racing. But the Tote may benefit even more if the whole Coral estate comes on the market and Ladbrokes's vice on the industry is unlocked. And racing will surely benefit when the odds are no longer tilted in favour of the Goliath.

Tour guilt?

From Mr John Bethell
Sir, While acknowledging that your paper has refused to descend to the garbage-sifting tactics of other newspapers covering the Tour de France, it is still disappointing to note that even The Times has avoided reporting the simple fact that all of the several hundred random dope tests taken during the course of the Tour proved negative. The tactics of the police drugs squad, which included stripping and anal searches of the athletes, came after the discovery of "substances" in the possession of some team doctors which could equally be described as "medication". Yours faithfully, JOHN BETHELL, 53 Presbury Road, Macclesfield, SK10 1AU.

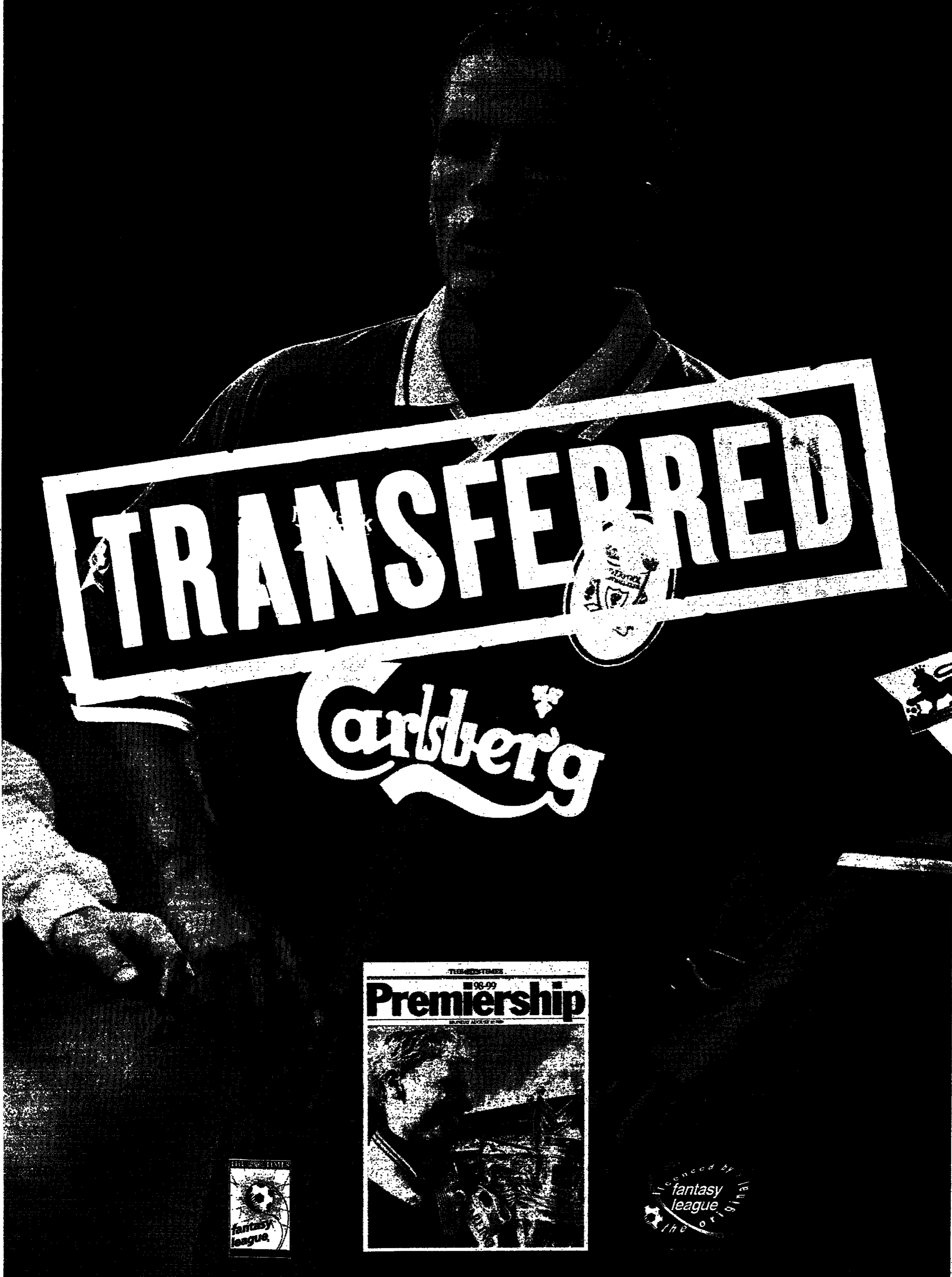
This week in THE TIMES

- Tomorrow The England cricket selectors pick a squad for the one-day tournament with South Africa and Sri Lanka
- Thursday Manchester United begin their European Cup campaign with the home leg of the tie against Widzew Lodz
- Friday The big names fly in for the highlight of the year on the women's European golf tour, the British Open
- Saturday Football Saturday is back: Danny Baker (above) returns; Frank Leboeuf on an unforgettable summer, the match-by-match guide to the FA Caring Premiership and our new series on a season with Manchester City

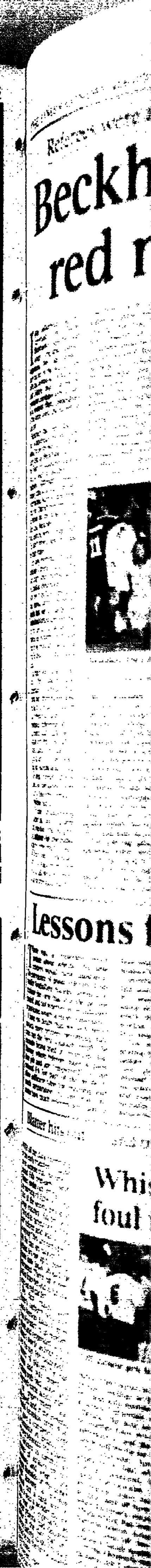
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30p

THE TIMES



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Referees were at the centre of attention in France 98. David Elleray tackles the issues raised

Beckham's red mist

I was saddened, but not surprised, by David Beckham's sending-off when England played Argentina. We had already seen earlier in the World Cup, with the dismissals of Kluyvert and Zivarek, that if a player is sent off, the referee has to be sure that the player's sent-off.

Beckham had been fouled, the Argentine player was about to be shown the yellow card and as Beckham lay on the floor he suddenly kicked out. It was a moment of madness. Although it was a sneaky little kick and Simeone overreacted, Kim Milton Nielsen, the Danish referee, had no option but to show the red card and Beckham's reaction was clear: he went straight off. He didn't protest and nor did his team-mates.

For days everyone debated Beckham's crime. Part of me was angry and frustrated at his childish behaviour. However, few of us have not in a split second done something stupid and we instantly regretted it. I could feel sympathy for him as he would be playing the incident over and over in his mind and wishing that he could turn the clock back.

The match was largely devoid of the brutality and gamesmanship which had marred past encounters and this was in no small measure due to Nielsen's accurate decision-making, imposing physical presence and calmness. Although everyone tried afterwards to blame him for England's defeat, his performance was exceptional and when neutral frames threw some of his decisions into doubt the close-up replays showed he was right.

For example, disallowing Campbell's goal because of a handball by Shearer was a brilliant decision. Nielsen's calmness was also evident when he ruled out this goal. He allowed Argentina to take the free kick quickly

and from the wrong position whilst England were still celebrating and they were very nearly caught out.

Nielsen awarded two penalties, one against Shearer when he came out, Simeone pushed the ball wide and Shearer's momentum brought him down. Any challenge which makes contact with an opponent without the ball being played is a direct free kick, and in this area that means a penalty. Later on Ayala tried to avoid making contact with Michael Owen as he was on an electric run into the penalty area, but Ayala blocked



Beckham fears the worst

his path and down Owen went.

Both penalties were not intentional fouls but they checked the progress of an opponent without the ball being played. The match also contained two handball incidents. The ball struck Adams's hand in the penalty area in the first half but it was a clear case of no intent. In the second half Chamot challenged for the ball with his arms high and again there was contact but, again, rightly, Nielsen decided there had been no intent.

Some of the group games were also very tight and Nielsen's calmness was something of a rarity in the second half of the England v Tunisia game, a match refer-

enced by Masayoshi Okada, from Japan. After half-time there was a series of incidents which revealed Okada's weakness and lack of understanding. On two occasions England players were brought to the ground by tackles from behind which certainly called for a yellow card and towards the end Sol Campbell committed a very poor tackle.

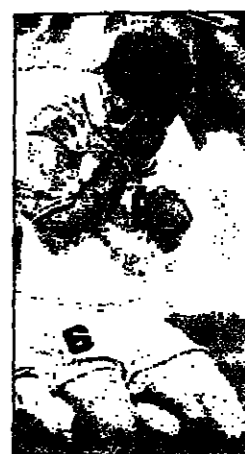
Okada rightly played an advantage and returned with a yellow card which might have been red. However, in the first half there had been one or possibly two tackles by Campbell which were yellow card offences and if Okada had done his job then this final tackle would have seen Campbell sent off.

What was most disturbing was that Okada allowed the Tunisians to foul England's forwards, and Shearer in particular, consistently in a low key but destructive way. Three times Shearer was deliberately stopped by being dragged to the ground or pushed over and on each occasion the foul was deliberately committed to stop his attacking move. An aware referee would have yellow carded each offence for its cynical intent.

Amidst the disappointment of England's defeat by Romania, the refereeing of Marc Batta, of France, shone out like a beacon. He took control of the game right from the start and yellow carded Gheorghe Hagi after he committed two fouls in quick succession. One feature that did disappoint was when Paul Scholes threw himself to the ground having lost possession in the Romanian penalty area. It was yet another example of excessive reactions and attempts to con the referee. One professional trying to get another into trouble by diving, overreacting or gesturing in this manner are distasteful actions that will need stamping out before they become endemic.



Off: Beckham leaves Nielsen with no option but dismissal and his team-mates with no grounds for protest



Bilic overreaction Typical moment

IN THE France v Croatia semi-final, José Manuel Garcia-Aranda, the Spanish referee, officiated in the style that had been so widely praised when he refereed the opening game.

He was not overstrict, indeed somewhat lenient with some tackles, but generated a good atmosphere among the players despite the huge amount of shirt-pulling and blocking at corners, which finally flared late in the second half.

As the players jockeyed for position at a French free-kick, Laurent Blanc reacted to being held by Croatia's Slaven Bilic by pushing him, with an open hand, in the face. In an overdramatic reaction, Bilic fell to the ground clutching the upper part of his head - nowhere near where contact had been made.

Garcia-Aranda sent off Blanc, he had no other choice given the attitude to such aggressive acts throughout this World Cup, but Bilic's reaction brought widespread condemnation. Indeed, this one incident captured in a few seconds the appalling cheating and overreacting that plagued France 98.

Lessons for the future

There was, as expected, much debate about whether full-time referees would raise standards. The emergence of good referees from smaller footballing nations seemed to reinforce the view that it is the person himself, and not whether he is full-time or part-time, which is most important.

I have no doubt that we will move towards more referees becoming full-time, but the best solution might be currently being tried in countries like Norway, where referees have a part-time job, and are 'employed' by the national FA for part of the week to allow sufficient time for training and match preparation. In the end, no matter how much referees are paid or

how professional they become they are human beings who will make mistakes. Several points emerged which football and referees need to address. On the positive side the fourth official using an electronic board to show how much time remained in each half worked well, and there was little on-field treatment of players.

Few serious injuries occurred, suggesting that the clampdown on violent tackles was successful. The benefits were probably best exemplified by Michael Owen's goal against Argentina, when he was able to run at speed any time, whereas in 1990 he would probably have been chopped down before he reached the penalty area.

There were also a number of negative areas. Shirt-holding and shirt-pulling reached almost epidemic proportions. Associated with this was the considerable blocking, holding and checking that took place at corners and attacking free-kicks, which was almost impossible for the referee to spot or deal with.

The issue of diving and over-reacting, needs to be quickly eradicated, probably using video technology. Where else should technology be used? Decisions of fact such as whether the ball crossed the line for a goal seem to be clear examples of where we could use cameras without undermining the authority of the referee or holding up the game too much.

Blatter hits out... and the World Cup becomes a card game

WITH all the slack refereeing in the early matches, it came as no surprise that the newly-elected Uefa president, Sepp Blatter, spoke out strongly on the morning of June 16 - the start of the second phase of group matches. Blatter was reported as hitting out at "too soft" referees and was quoted as saying "they are not applying the ban on tackles from behind. It's not up to them to decide how foul should be interpreted. There have been tackles from behind so far that deserved red cards".

The first match after Blatter's outburst was Scotland v Norway. Lazio Vagner, from Hungary, is an excellent referee and responded well to Blatter's words without going over the top. He cautioned a number of players for bad tackles and was expert at reading both bad tackles and those with some tactical intent.

The improvement was short-lived, and in the evening Nikolai Levnikov, from Russia, gave a completely inept performance in Brazil's 3-0 win over Morocco. He allowed the Africans to commit all manner of assaults on the Brazilians and when Chiba caught Ronaldo on the upper thigh, leaving a six-inch wound, not a card was in sight. It was a wonder no one was sent off, especially as Michel Platini had declared earlier in the day that any referee failing to do his duty would be on the first available flight home.

However, there was little doubt that the referees would feel pressurised by these very

Whistling up a foul new storm



Off: Zidane gets his marching orders on red Thursday

public statements, as well as private meetings at the referee's base with members of the Referees Committee and Fifa officials. The acid test would be whether there would be an over-reaction and the pendulum would swing too far.

On Thursday June 18 it appeared it had when two matches produced five red cards. The excellent Colombian referee, John Zairo Toro Rendón, sent off three players when Denmark played South Africa whilst that evening the Mexican referee, Arturo Brizio Carter, sent off two in the France v Saudi Arabia game.

In the Denmark-South Africa game, the Colombian referee's body language showed that he was over-reacting and losing control of himself. He issued red and yellow cards by standing up to the player, standing as tall as he could

and thrusting the card high into the air. It was all too dramatic and served only to provoke players.

The dismissal of Denmark's Miklos Molnar was a mystery and I was unsure whether it was for the foul or because Toro Rendón thought he saw a stamp. By brandishing the red card he set himself a very high standard so when South African midfielder, Alfred Phiri, raised his arm in a challenge the referee demanding a red card and the Colombian had to send him off to be consistent.



Off: Zidane gets his marching orders on red Thursday

Later, Morton Weghorst committed a straightforward yellow card tackle from behind but by this stage Toro Rendón had lost his composure to such an extent that his judgment had gone and to no one's amazement the red card appeared.

This match increased the pressure on Brizio Carter but he put in one of the better performances to book himself a place in the latter stages. He was firm but calm and steadily won the respect and confidence of the players.

Al-Khalawi jumped two-footed into a tackle and although he only clipped Bixente Lizarazu, if the French defender had not taken avoiding action his leg could have been broken. It was the type of tackle that strict referees should punish strongly to protect players. Later Zidane reacted to a tackle and stamped, not violently but certainly deliberately, on Fouad Amin, the Saudi captain. Amin, the Saudi captain, Amin Jaquet, the French coach, said afterwards that Zidane deserved to be sent off.



Off: Zidane gets his marching orders on red Thursday

Referee! by David Elleray, is published by Bloomsbury Publishing (£16.99) on August 13. To reserve a copy call Excel Cash Sales on 01933 672400.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Here is a lead problem. Your right-hand opponent opens One Club. One Diamond on your left. Three No-Trumps on your right. Four No-Trumps (ordinary Blackwood) on your left. Five Hearts (two aces) on your right. Six No-Trumps on your left. This is your hand:

♠ 10 9 6 5 ♠ A 10 9 2 ♠ J ♠ 10 9 3

The Three No-Trump rebid suggested a solid suit. What would you lead? This was the full deal:

| Dealer East | Game All | IMPs |
|--|---|--|
| ♠ K J 4 3 ♥ Q 5 ♦ A K Q 6 5 4 ♣ 5 | ♠ 8 2 ♥ K 8 7 6 4 ♦ 10 8 7 2 ♣ 7 6 | ♠ A 7 ♥ J 5 ♦ 8 5 ♣ A K Q J 8 4 2 |

Contract: Six No-Trumps by South. Lead: ♠

This deal comes from the 1982 Rosenblum Teams (the third most important of the events that count as a world championship) when France and the United States faced each other. West was Philippe Soulet, of France, and a huge swing hung on his choice of lead. He argued that there was not much point in leading his singleton diamond: even if it did set up a winner in his partner's hand, he would not be able to cash it. A spade lead was a possibility, but even if his partner had the king, declarer might well have 12 winners to cash. He decided to play his partner for the king of hearts, the one card that would always beat the contract. Soulet laid down the ace of hearts and the defenders soon took five tricks in the suit for +400.

At the other table, the French North was declarer in the same contract and East, Kit Woolsey, led a passive diamond. That was a swing of 18 IMPs to France, the eventual champions.

This hand comes from a new book, *Famous Leads and Defences* (Victor Gollancz, £7.99), the third in a series by David Bird, the previous two being *Famous Bidding Decisions* and *Famous Play Decisions*. All are available from Chess & Bridge, tel: 0171-388-2404 or the IPBM Bookshop, tel: 0115-942 2615.

TCR Promotions is holding an auction pairs tournament at the Landmark Hotel, London, from August 14-16. The organisers guarantee a first prize of £100,000. Entry fee £1,000 per pair. Enquiries: 0171-706 2404.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

British results

After a tough struggle Grandmaster Matthew Sadler and Grandmaster Nigel Short tied for first place in the Smith & Williamson British championship in Torquay. Short had been in the lead but lost in the final round to Tony Miles which enabled Sadler by means of a brisk win to catch up with him. The tie was resolved on Saturday when a two-game mini-match led to Short's ultimate victory by 1½ points to ½. Short is thus the new British chess champion, regaining the title he first contested in 1977. Over the next two weeks this column will be giving a selection of games from the championship.

| | | |
|----|------|---------------|
| 27 | bq6 | bq6 |
| 28 | Nq4 | Rd1+ |
| 29 | Rd1 | Nb6 |
| 30 | Nq5 | Rb8 |
| 31 | Rc1 | Qd8 |
| 32 | Kh1 | Nb6 |
| 33 | Rd1 | Nd7 |
| 34 | Nc5 | Nc5 |
| 35 | Nc5 | Nd7 |
| 36 | Bc2 | Kf7 |
| 37 | Nc4 | Qh4 |
| 38 | Bc2 | Qe7 |
| 39 | Rc1 | Nb6 |
| 40 | Bh4 | Nee4 |
| 41 | Qe4 | Qf7 |
| 42 | Qf7 | Qd7 |
| 43 | Be7 | Rc7 |
| 44 | Qe7 | Qe7 |
| 45 | Rc6 | Qf7 |
| 46 | Rb6 | Nf5 |
| 47 | Rd1 | Kb6 |
| 48 | Kf1 | Kf7 |
| 49 | Kf2 | Kb6 |
| 50 | Ra6 | Kf7 |
| 51 | Ra5 | Qf2 |
| 52 | Rb5 | Bf8 |
| 53 | Rb7+ | Kb6 |
| 54 | Rc7 | Black resigns |

Diagram of final position

White: Matthew Sadler
Black: Pravin Thipsay
British championship Torquay 1998

| | | |
|----|------|------|
| 1 | d4 | Nf6 |
| 2 | c4 | Bg7 |
| 3 | Nc3 | Qc8 |
| 4 | h4 | Qe5 |
| 5 | h3 | O-O |
| 6 | Bg5 | c5 |
| 7 | Qc2 | e6 |
| 8 | Qe5 | exd5 |
| 9 | cxd5 | Bc7 |
| 10 | Bc3 | Be7 |
| 11 | Rc1 | Nh7 |
| 12 | Bd3 | Nd7 |
| 13 | Bd1 | Nc5 |
| 14 | Bb1 | b5 |
| 15 | Nge2 | Qh4+ |
| 16 | Nf3 | Bc7 |
| 17 | O-O | Qf7 |
| 18 | Bf2 | Qe7 |
| 19 | h3 | b4 |
| 20 | Nce2 | Bb6 |
| 21 | h4 | Nd7 |
| 22 | Qe5 | Qe5 |
| 23 | f5 | Rc6 |
| 24 | Bc3 | Rc8 |
| 25 | Bc3 | Bc3 |
| 26 | Qe3 | Rf6 |

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FARAD
a. Unit in physics
b. Spanish poet
c. An early Christian teacher

POLYPLOID
a. A shape with several sides
b. A synthetic polymer
c. Three or more sets of chromosomes

ZIGGURAT
a. A pyramid
b. An antidepressant drug
c. A German chemist

PHYLLXOKERA
a. Inflammation of a vein
b. Plant-sucking insects
c. A radioactive element

Answers on page 41

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

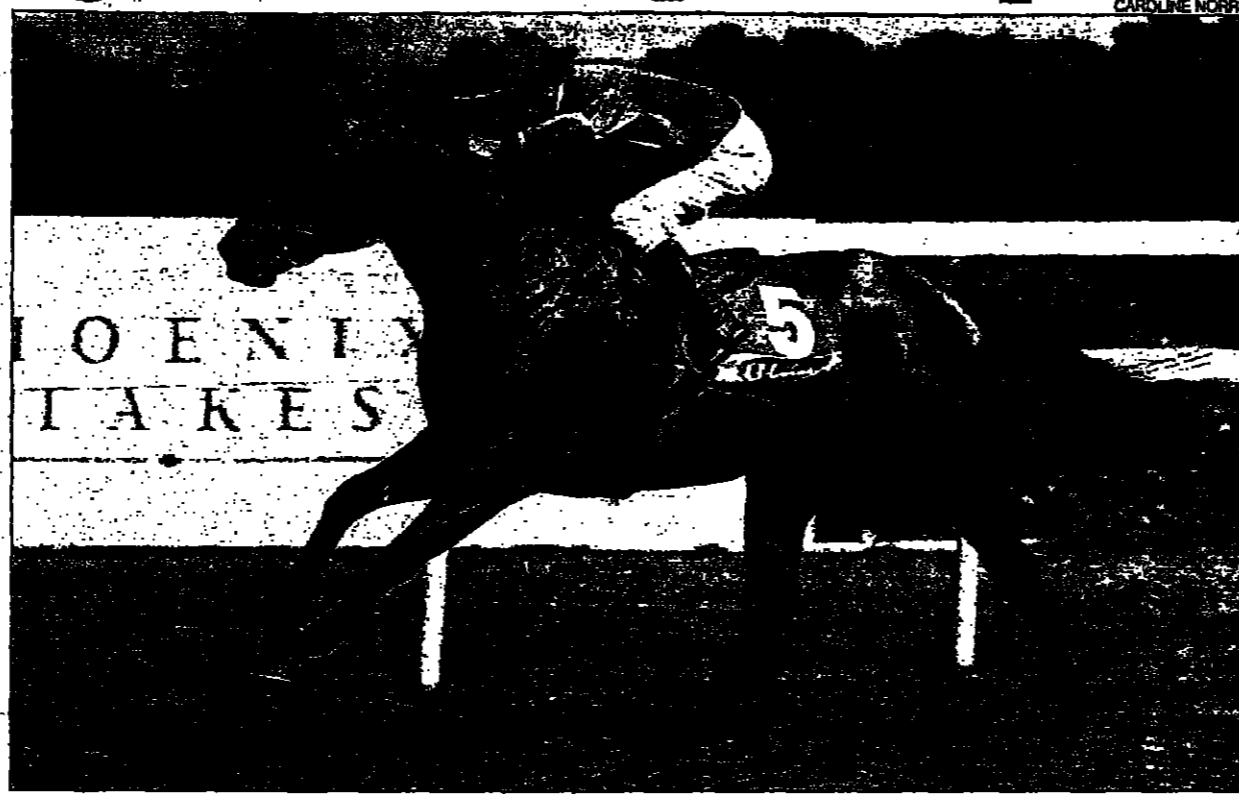
White to play. This position is from the game Hubner - Korchnoi, Switzerland, 1998. Although now 67 years old, Viktor Korchnoi remains a place among the top players in the world. Here, however, he has overlooked a cunning trap. What did White play?

Solution on page 41

RACING: JAPANESE CELEBRATE FIRST EUROPEAN GROUP ONE VICTORY IN DEAUVILLE SPRINT

Seeking The Pearl proves prized gem

By Richard Evans RACING CORRESPONDENT



Lavery storms clear to land the group one Heinz 57 Phoenix Park Stakes at Leopardstown yesterday

A NEW chapter in international racing was written in the elegant surroundings of Deauville yesterday when a horse from Japan plundered a European group one event for the first time.

The historic victory of Seeking The Pearl against leading British and French-trained sprinters in the extended six-furlong Prix Maurice de Gheest could pave the way for more audacious raids by Far Eastern equine stars, attracted by the prestige of Europe's top races.

Seeking The Pearl is trained by Hidejuki Mori, best known for his association with Legacy World, the 1993 Japan Cup winner. Her owner, Akiko Uenaka, 27, describes herself as "an ordinary Japanese girl" but paid \$185,000 for the filly as a yearling and spends much of her time in New York, where she is involved in art.

Ridden yesterday by Yutaka Take, the darling of Japanese racing enthusiasts, Seeking The Pearl was always in the firing line before sauntering clear a furlong from home to win snugly by a length from Jim And Tonic, with the Mick Channon-trained Muchea a close-up third. Danetime finished fifth, Kahal sixth, Graziu ninth and the mud-lowing Tomba eleventh.

The four-year-old Seeking The Pearl had previously won seven races in Japan and amassed £1.6 million in prize-money and it was very much Uenaka's idea to campaign in Europe. The filly arrived in England two weeks ago and had been stabled at Geoff Wragg's yard while her owner has rented a house in Newmarket for the duration of her two-month stay.

"I can't believe this. It hasn't sunk it yet," Miss Uenaka said. "We came to Europe because she has already achieved so much in Japan and it certainly was not for the prize-money."

"She can be a bit funny, but when I saw her in the parade ring I knew everything was going to be all right. The plan now is to go back to Geoff Wragg's yard before running in the Prix Moulin."

Lavery, who was the 250,000 prize-money winner yesterday, she will collect another £25,000 bonus from the Japan Racing Association (JRA). Ironically, Seeking The Pearl's success came only hours after the JRA announced a 15 per cent rise in the total prize-money for the 1998 Japan Cup - with the winner set to collect around £900,000.

Meanwhile, Lavery, at 14-1, won the group one Heinz 57 Phoenix Park Stakes at Leopardstown yesterday for Aidan O'Brien, staying on against Aisling O'Brien, staying on against Aisling O'Brien, staying on against Aisling O'Brien.

Lavery, only seventh on his debut, had to be withdrawn from his second intended start after breaking out in the stalls last month, and was put through some lengthy practice sessions last week in the stalls at home.

Patience ridden by Walter Swinburn, Lavery was on his best behaviour yesterday and may turn out again for the Prix Morry at Deauville next Sunday.

The victory, witnessed by large numbers of Japanese press and media, could lead to a rethink about her nickname. In Japan she is known as "naughty girl" because of her quirks, which include stopping to a walk if it rains.

Apart from the £50,000 prize-money won yesterday, she will collect another £25,000 bonus from the Japan Racing Association (JRA). Ironically, Seeking The Pearl's success came only hours after the JRA announced a 15 per cent rise in the total prize-money for the 1998 Japan Cup - with the winner set to collect around £900,000.

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March Star, trained by James Toller, won the group three Phoenix Sprint Stakes.

THUNDER

6.10 Sun Alert, 6.35 Cool Katie, 7.05 Happy Days Again, 7.35 Sun Day, 8.05 Ribble Assembly, 8.35 Welcome Sunset.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

DRAW: 5F-6F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

6.10 ROW TELEVISION-NUBS FACILITY HANDICAP (2-Y-O; 2m) (11 runners)

- 1 45-9 TERONIA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-10 A. Callaghan 4
- 2 54-03 OUL WAY (7) (M) M. J. Moran 4-2 D. McNeill (7) 5
- 3 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 4 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 5 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 6 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 7 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 8 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 9 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 10 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6
- 11 45-20 GERRY (10) (M) M. J. Moran 4-4 J. Callaghan 6

6.35 EBF MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O; 0.53.24) SKY (14)

- 1 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
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- 8 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 004 DANIEL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

7.05 WEATHERBY'S STALLION BOOK HANDICAP (3-Y-O; 0.45.58) SKY (11)

- 1 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
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- 7 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
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- 10 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

7.35 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O; 0.23.05) SKY (16)

- 1 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
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- 10 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 000 ANDRITA (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

8.05 WEST YORKSHIRE SELLING HANDICAP (2-Y-O; 1m 11) SKY (18)

- 1 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
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- 9 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 254 CELERITY (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

8.35 GOLDEN FLEECE HANDICAP (3-Y-O; 0.45.33) (18)

- 1 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 24-8 SUE TRAIL (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

THUNDER

5.55 CREME CAMEL (nap), 6.20 Gypsy Music, 6.50 Lycian, 7.20 Princess Danielle, 7.50 Kismara, 8.20 Cadeaux Cher.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

5.55 EBF MENPHYS MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O; 0.53.08; 7/9yd) (14 runners)

- 1 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 506 ALANORAH (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

6.20 INSTITUTE OF INSURANCE BROKERS HANDICAP (2-Y-O; 0.48.36; 21/8yd) (8)

- 1 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 1000 POCO (5) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

6.50 CHARITY HANDICAP (3-Y-O; 0.33.14; 1m 8yd) (14)

- 1 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 040 ANU CAMP (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

7.20 LUMBERS BREITLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O; 1m 11 21/8yd) (6)

- 1 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

7.50 TRAVELSPHERE CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O; 0.25.56; 7/9yd) (12)

- 1 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

8.20 EVANS-MERBENZ CLASSIFIED STAKES (2-Y-O; 21/8yd) (5)

- 1 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

COURSE SPECIALISTS

LEICESTER: Trainers: P. Chapman-Shym, 4 winners from 17 runners, 23.9% in history. 7 times in 22 years, 1 Dublin, 25 from 128, 19.4% in total, 4 from 28, 14.3%. Jockeys: P. Seabury, 37 winners from 147 rides, 25.5% in total, 11 from 77, 14.3%. Day: 11 from 64, 17.2% in total, 11 from 123, 8.9%.

THUNDER

2.15 Foleys Quest, 2.45 Royal Barga, 3.15 Gray Pass, 3.45 Master Millfield, 4.15 Club Caribbean, 4.45 King Tiger.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

2.15 ENEMA CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (11.81; 3m) (17 runners)

- 1 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 2-15 FOLEYS QUEST (5F) (J) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

2.45 POND AND CIRCUMSTANCE NOVICES CHASE (2.52; 2m 7/11yd) (7)

- 1 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 111 ROYAL BARGE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

3.15 ELGAR HANDICAP HURDLE (2.37; 2m 4d) (8)

- 1 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 454 CANTON VENTURE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

7.20 LUMBERS BREITLING HANDICAP (3-Y-O; 1m 11 21/8yd) (6)

- 1 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 0210 DANUTE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

7.50 TRAVELSPHERE CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O; 0.25.56; 7/9yd) (12)

- 1 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 3003 VIGORANCE (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

8.20 EVANS-MERBENZ CLASSIFIED STAKES (2-Y-O; 21/8yd) (5)

- 1 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 0061 CAGNAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

COURSE SPECIALISTS

LEICESTER: Trainers: P. Chapman-Shym, 4 winners from 17 runners, 23.9% in history. 7 times in 22 years, 1 Dublin, 25 from 128, 19.4% in total, 4 from 28, 14.3%. Jockeys: P. Seabury, 37 winners from 147 rides, 25.5% in total, 11 from 77, 14.3%. Day: 11 from 64, 17.2% in total, 11 from 123, 8.9%.

WORCESTER

2.15 Foleys Quest, 2.45 Royal Barga, 3.15 Gray Pass, 3.45 Master Millfield, 4.15 Club Caribbean, 4.45 King Tiger.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM

DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

4.15 GERONTUS HANICAP CHASE (43.02; 2m) (13)

- 1 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 154-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

4.45 CHANSON JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (3-Y-O; 22.55; 2m) (13)

- 1 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 2 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 3 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 4 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 5 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 6 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 7 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 8 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 9 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 10 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7
- 11 574-CLUB CARIBBEAN (11) (M) M. J. Moran 9-7 J. Callaghan 7

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M. P. Jones, 33 winners from 167 runners, 31.7% in history. 7 times in 22 years, 1 Dublin, 25 from 128, 19.4% in total, 4 from 28, 14.3%. Jockeys: P. Seabury, 37 winners from 147 rides, 25.5% in total, 11 from 77, 14.3%. Day: 11 from 64, 17.2% in total, 11 from 123, 8.9%.

CISCO CITY CHALLENGE
All you

CISCO CITY CHALLENGE

Teamwork is the secret of the bonding game

The concept of a direct relationship between physical and mental achievement goes back a long way — at least as far as the Greeks and Romans.

It was an idea avidly fostered by the public school ethos, the belief that "games" were a necessary adjunct to academic study and that an afternoon could be as profitably spent on a cross-country run as in "swotting" in the library.

The all-rounder — Renaissance Man — is in many ways a more attractive figure than the specialist. It is somehow reassuring to learn that Samuel Beckett played first-class cricket, that Albert Camus was an international goalkeeper and that Dame Joan Hammond was an open golf champion.

One is tempted to suspect, perhaps unfairly, that leading figures in the arts and sciences cultivate an interest in sport for the sake of their image. But it was probably the armed services that introduced the idea that qualities of leadership were best fostered by a combined physical and mental challenge.

In recent years their lead has been followed by commercial organisations, which have come to believe that their employees will gain confidence from the experience of teamwork and the need to make quick decisions under pressure in unfamiliar and sometimes arduous conditions, and from the pride in their achievements.

Occasionally things may get out of hand, as in a recent incident when several people ended up in hospital after allegedly being required to walk over hot coals. Others have publicly expressed doubts about whether being exhausted, soaked to the skin and freezing cold, with aching limbs and blistered feet, has made them a better accountant or marketing manager than they might otherwise be.

But Peter Bishop, a former Army officer and managing director of Challenger UK, harbours no doubts. In the eight years since its inception, the firm's principal event, the annual Challengers Trophy, staged over three-and-a-half days and currently sponsored by Securicor, has attracted teams from many of the best known names in British industry, and has been emulated in several other countries.

Mr Bishop has no time for any extreme gimmicks. "Obvi-



Blood, sweat and tears: competitors at this June's Securicor Challengers Trophy in Torquay

ously some activities, such as canoeing and abseiling, carry an element of danger," he says. "But all our activities are well tested and well tried."

"There are instructors on the spot for each activity, and we make sure of getting full clearance from the Health and Safety Executive. But, having said that, we have to steer a course between being too harsh and too soft. A challenge must be a challenge."

However, while manufacturing companies are generally willing and able to let their employees take the best part of a week away from their workplace, the attitude within the Square Mile is somewhat different. Many City firms have

of physical and mental agility." Use of the Internet in schools and public libraries will help to break down social and economic barriers, he believes. "It will play an important role in how we all work, play, live and learn."

Although the Cisco Challenge will be shorter and sharper than the Challengers Trophy, and will not require the same degree of physical endurance, Mr Bishop insists that the principles are the same.

Its objectives are to improve accuracy, sharpen reaction times, foster fast thinking, enhance teamwork and improve people's ability to communicate. The last of these may seem particularly relevant in an age when, despite enormous technological advances in telecommunications and Mr Dedicoat's belief in the future of the Internet, the facility to make oneself understood has shown little improvement and may even have regressed.

Learning how to get a message across in simple terms under difficult conditions is likely to be as valuable as any amount of computer expertise. Much the same goes for teamwork. Team is a word frequently bandied about in contemporary commerce, but it is all too often used to denote merely a group of individuals with possibly conflicting attitudes.

The Challenger UK philosophy is that the only way to succeed is to learn to work together and to understand the need for decisive leadership. "My job is made that much more difficult by having to get these ideas across within a single day," Mr Bishop says.

"But essentially the framework is the same. The teams still have to match themselves against the clock, with limited resources and with all discussions out in the open. Nothing is permitted behind locked doors. "Because time is limited, they will have to make an early assessment of their own strengths and weaknesses. If there are disagreements, they will have to learn to settle them promptly and get on with the task in hand. Learning to work as a team can for many people be a real eye-opener. But I also hope and believe that it will be fun. Everyone will gain something," he says.

JOHN YOUNG



Plans for abseiling down the walls of City buildings still have to be finalised

COMPETE WITH THE CITY'S BIGGEST COMPANIES. (YOU MAY REMOVE YOUR JACKET AND TIE)



The Cisco City Challenge will be no jolly.

On Saturday 17 October teams representing some of the biggest names in The City of London will switch off their mobiles, swap jackets for running suits and lock horns in a test of skill and endeavour in The Cisco City Challenge — a one day outdoor event designed to challenge the best in City.

Each team will face a series of energy-sapping, mind stretching outdoor activities using maps, compasses, mountain bikes, zip wires, watercraft and their wits.

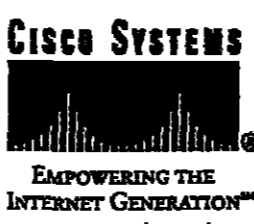
And then it will be up hill, down buildings, across water, cracking problems and all against the clock.

The question is are you up to it?

Are you capable of making split-second decisions that may affect your future path? Can you judge when best to cut your losses, when to stop and take stock? Can you remain cool under pressure and unruffled under fire? Are you willing to use your initiative to set targets, make bids and meet deadlines? More importantly, can you do it as one of a team? Your ability to communicate, lead and solve problems on the run will be of critical importance to your team's success. (A sense of humour also helps!)

At the end of it all you'll all be better equipped to contribute to your company big or small — over one-third of FT-SE 100 companies say so.

If you want more information, you can start by rolling your sleeves up and calling our number



Tel: 0171 559 2900 Fax: 0171 559 2949
Web-site: <http://www.challenger.uk.com>

How Cisco aims to help kids in need

Whether or not Challenger UK events bring the benefits to business and industry that the organisers claim, they fulfil a social purpose in attracting funds to charitable causes.

Since 1990 more than £15 million has been raised through sponsorship; the beneficiary of this year's Cisco Challenge will be NCH Action for Children.

Perhaps better known under its previous name, National Children's Homes, the charity was founded in 1869 by Thomas Stephenson, a Methodist minister, in order to rescue children from a destitute and dangerous life on the streets.

The change of name, seven years ago, reflects the fact that it now runs only one residential home of the traditional kind, and has diversified into numerous other projects aimed at young people and their families in various kinds of difficulty.

"In recent years we have come to the conclusion that residential homes are not usually the best way to look after children who are rejected by their families," says Deryk Mead, the chief executive.

"Nowadays we first of all try to work with the families to find a way of keeping the children in their own homes. If we are able to intervene at an early stage, there is a better chance of keeping a family together, provided that the children are not at risk.

"If mediation fails, and the parents are on the point of splitting up, we do our best to ensure the best outcome for the children. If a child can't stay with either parent, we will usually look for suitable foster parents, although that too can bring problems.

NCH Action for Children has diversified its aims, says John Young



are being approached to open more homes, although this time they would be smaller and locally based, instead of in big houses in the countryside," Mr Mead says.

But the charity's work goes much further than finding new families for children who need them. Its £90 million annual budget, about two-thirds of which is funded by local social services, education departments and health authorities, is spent on more than 300 projects.

These include help for young people with disabilities or special needs, those who have suffered physical or sexual abuse and those who are in trouble with the courts.

Other programmes are directed at drug abuse, truancy and homelessness. The charity also provides advice for young families and young people faced with caring for adults or siblings and help for foster parents and schools responsible for children with severe disabilities.

It claims to be the largest provider of family centres in Britain, and was one of the first charities to establish a network of centres for victims of abuse.

Our present age of anxiety is characterised by concern over drugs, and over violence in schools and on the streets, Mr Mead says. The pace of technological change has benefited mainly the well-educated and relatively prosperous, while the less fortunate feel that everything is changing around them and there is nothing they can do about it.

Mr Mead also finds it ironic that a charity founded 130 years ago to rescue children sleeping in the streets is still encountering the same problem. "It makes you wonder how far society has really progressed," he says.



Deryk Mead, chief executive of NCH. The NCH was founded to rescue children sleeping in the streets. It makes you wonder how far society has really progressed.

RETURNED TO SENDER

37 49
36 23
15 27

In search of hidden skill

CHALLENGE Sponsored section

All you need are brains and running shoes

The Cisco Challenge is the latest in a number of corporate events for companies seeking a concentrated physical and mental contest for their employees which will not eat into precious business time.

Although aimed primarily at City firms, it is by no means exclusive. Any company with an office, including a branch one, within the M25 is welcome to enter a team.

For Philip Pearce, who is responsible for designing the course, the task is itself a challenge. In sharp contrast to the National Parks and other sparsely populated upland areas, which provide the stage for the annual Challengers Trophy, the City is the most concentrated collection of buildings in Britain and probably in Europe. Nonetheless, he insists, the principles remain the same.

"All we have to do is find different ways of posing the same sort of questions that people would expect to encounter in a longer and geographically more varied event," he says. "Besides, we tested the water two years ago, so we have a fairly good idea of how it will work."

For brainy City types the mental problems might appear relatively easy when studied from the comfort of a desk or an armchair. Mr Pearce concedes. "But they are a very different matter when people are under pressure of time and tired from their physical exertions. In a way

Teams will have to solve various mental problems while under physical stress, says John Young

we are simply replicating what often happens in the real world of business, when people are tired and may be inclined to be grumpy with each other."

The basic physical challenge involves travelling as fast as possible between various points on the course, which are located by interpreting coded instructions. Mr Pearce hopes to introduce some diversions, such as abseiling down the walls of buildings, but plans have still to be finalised.

The mental puzzles allow competitors to earn bonus points, but naturally they require extra time to solve. Participants must therefore choose whether to attempt them or to press on against the clock, bearing in mind that a test of logic may provide a clue to the next stage.

Although the course is demanding, the teams do not need to be trained athletes or marathon runners, he emphasises. "It is within the scope of anyone prepared to push himself or herself. We are not catering for the superfit, although it goes without saying that the fitter you are the less tired you will get."

Mr Pearce uses the phrase "average physical ability" as meaning fit enough to jog up to six kilometres, with occa-

sional halts, without any ill effects. Those who lead a largely sedentary life are advised to undertake a short training programme; evening or weekend jogging is usually enough. Safety is paramount; courses are checked and rechecked for potential hazards, health and safety guidelines are observed, and teams of paramedics are on standby.

Professional instruction is provided for activities such as abseiling or crossing a ravine on wires. The use of electronic equipment, including calculators, is normally banned.

Being staged on a Saturday, when the streets are far less crowded than on normal working days, the event is not expected to disrupt traffic or the serious business of making money. Teams, in any case, have been restricted to three people, so passers-by will not be swept off the pavement by phalanxes of sweaty men and

women in tracksuits. Streets may be crossed only at traffic lights or on pedestrian crossings.

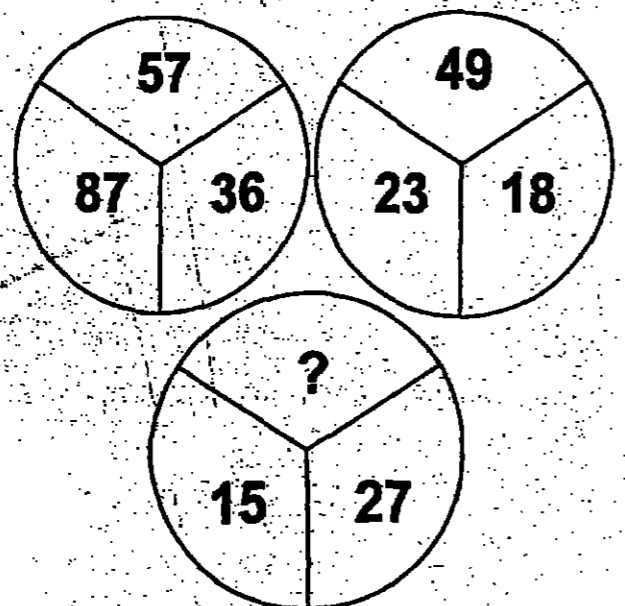
"We have had splendid cooperation from the police, and the City Corporation has given us enthusiastic support," Mr Pearce says. "A few eyebrows may be raised, but the public is much more accustomed to eccentrics in tracksuits and running shoes on urban streets than a generation ago."

Entry costs £950 for the first team, £900 for a second and £850 for any further teams. Lunch, a prize-giving buffet, running suits and the use of specialist equipment are included in the price. All that competitors need to supply are their brains and a good pair of running shoes.

Full entry details may be obtained from David Parker or Tara Cronin, Challenger UK Marketing, Grosvenor Gardens House, 35-37 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0BS. Tel: 0171-559 2900. Fax: 0171-559 2949. E-mail: david@challenger.uk.com Website: <http://www.challenger.uk.com>



Pawns in the game: competitors may need to solve mental challenges in order to advance to the next location



Sample: could you solve this quiz on the run? Answer: 93. (87 + 57) div by 4 = 36. (49 + 23) div 4 = 18. (15 + 93) div 4 = 27

In search of hidden skills

Not many years ago the idea of sending employees on courses deliberately designed to test their physical and mental fitness and adaptability, under stress and in sometimes hostile conditions, would have been dismissed by most companies as old-fashioned and unnecessary. John Young writes.

It was something that smacked of "character building", a concept favoured by past generations of colonels and headmasters, but out of place in a modern business world ruled by time and money.

Just how much attitudes have changed is shown by the fact that the number of participants in events organised by Challenger UK has grown by more than half in the past year alone. Nine out of ten companies which took part last year re-entered this year — in many cases with more teams. The participants include many of the best-known names from business and industry, as well as government departments and agencies, local authorities and charities.

It would be difficult to compile a more eclectic list than one that includes American Express, Avon Cosmetics, the Atomic Weapons Establishment, BP, Esso, Shell, British Aerospace, Cable & Wireless, the Cancer Research Campaign, Cardiff County Council, GCHQ, GKN, Glaxo Wellcome, Lloyds TSB, Microsoft, the Ministry of Defence, the National Blood Service, Pontius, Presidential Services, Save & Prosper, Securicor and Whitbread.

According to the organisers, many companies use the Challenger events as a central part of their personnel development programmes, and have reported genuine benefits for the workplace.

Banks and financial institutions were perhaps initially slower than industrial companies to recognise the potential benefits, but there is now a burgeoning demand from the City of London, which the Cisco Challenge has been designed to meet.

Among the entries is NatWest Bank, which is taking part in a Challenger event for the first time. A spokesman described it as an excellent opportunity for the staff involved to test their individual and team-working abilities.

Staff would be required to solve physical and mental problems in what was expected to be an extremely competitive and unfamiliar environment.

Another new recruit is 3i plc, which describes itself as Europe's leading venture capital company. Having entered a team in this year's Challengers Trophy in June, it has decided to follow up by competing in the Cisco City Challenge in October.

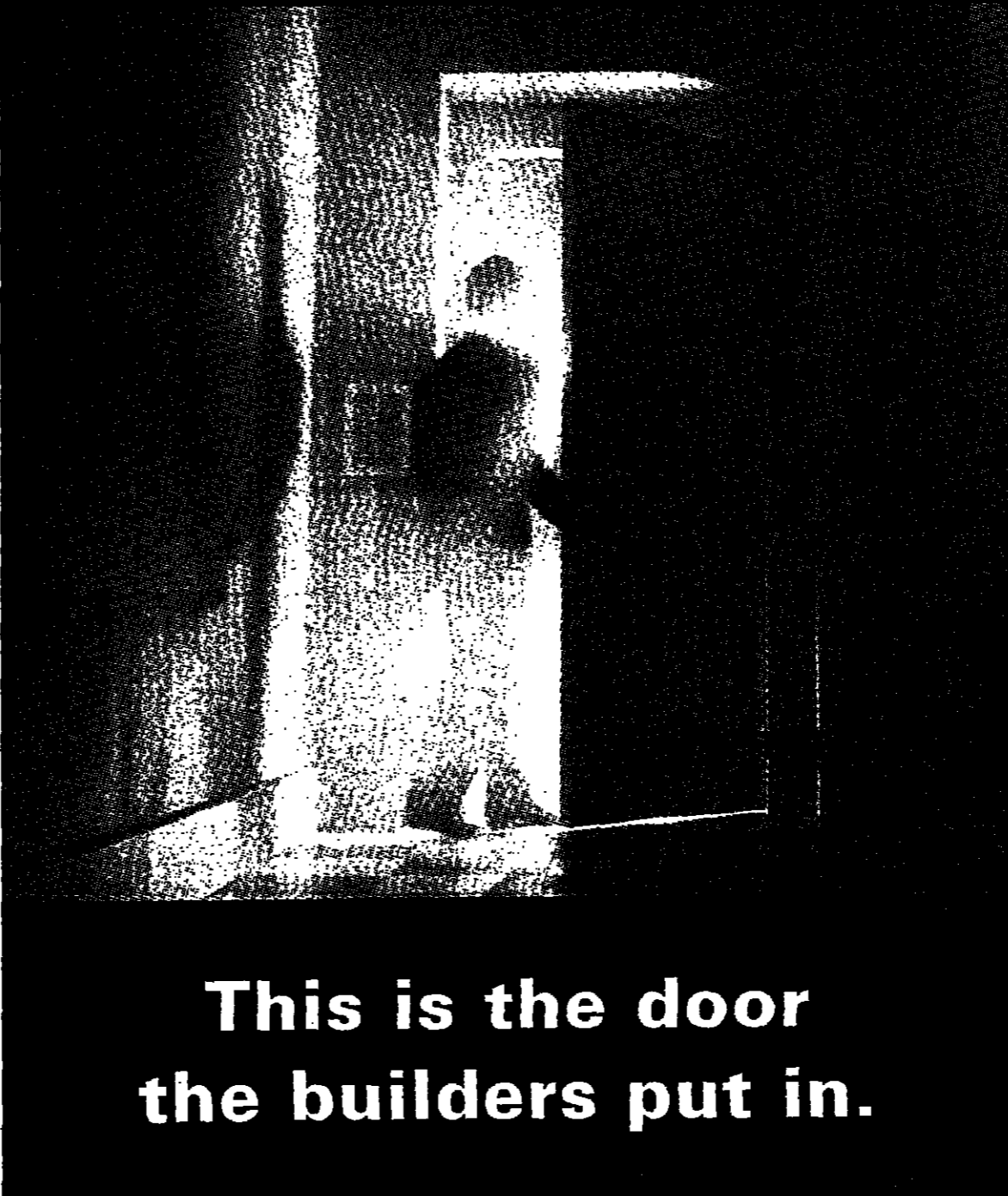
"We feel this is an excellent opportunity both to support a charity — which is always in everyone's interest — and to gain the sort of experience in team-building which cannot be acquired in the workplace," says James Aspinall, the company's European financial controller.

"People find out things about each other which they never knew before, and get themselves into the sort of situations that they don't normally face. They discover that one person has certain skills, and someone else other abilities, which they might otherwise never have been aware of," he says.

"There is also rivalry between different teams from the same company. As a result, they get to know each other far better than by just occasional telephone calls or casual meetings in the corridor."



There are lots of ways for your business to enter the Internet.



This is the door the builders put in.

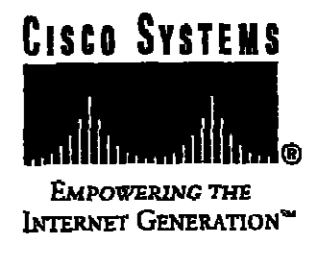
The promise of networked commerce. Stronger customer relationships. The ability to rapidly respond to a constantly changing marketplace.

Where there's a reason to put your business on the Internet, there's a reason to rely on the expertise, strength and security of Cisco Systems — the company that brought the Internet to business.

Look for the Cisco Powered Network™ mark. It means your network service provider uses Cisco equipment — the common platform that lets your network work with any other network on the planet.

Which is why Cisco Powered Network service providers are uniquely equipped to make the Internet work for you, whether it's Internet access, ATM, frame relay or other data services.

To find out more, visit our website at www.cisco.com. And let a Cisco Powered Network service provider open up the Internet for your business.



Capitalisation, week's change

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % | Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----|-------|-----|-------|-------|------------------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Tennent's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Tennent's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| BANKS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Bank of Scotland | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Bank of Scotland | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Barclays | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Barclays | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | HSBC | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | HSBC | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| BREWERIES, PUBS & REST | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| FOOD MANUFACTURERS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| ELECTRICITY | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| ELECTRONIC & ELECT | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| ENGINEERING | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| CONSTRUCTION | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| DISTRIBUTORS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
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| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| OTHER FINANCIAL | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| PHARMACEUTICALS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUPPORT SERVICES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
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| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| OTHER FINANCIAL | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| PHARMACEUTICALS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| SUPPORT SERVICES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| ENGINEERING VEHICLES | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| INVESTMENT TRUSTS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |

| Alt | Company | PE | Yield | Div | Div % |
|------------------------|-----------|----|-------|-----|-------|
| OTHER FINANCIAL | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Carlsberg | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| PHARMACEUTICALS | | | | | |
| 14.20 | Asahi | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| 14.20 | Beck's | 15 | | | |

هكذا من الجاهل

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Rate clues still sought

The Bank of England's decision to leave rates on hold has not entirely removed the threat of another rate rise and the market will be anxiously examining a string of important data this week for clues to the Bank's next move.

Wednesday is likely to be the crunch day with the publication of the Bank's Quarterly Inflation Report coinciding with the release of the May labour market data. The City will want to see how far the Bank has softened its stance on the inflationary outlook.

With the peak bonus month of March dropping out of the figures, the City expects the May labour market statistics to show signs of the long-awaited slowdown in earnings growth, although the annual rate of increase will remain uncomfortably high.

MMS International, the economics forecasting group, predicts that annual growth in average earnings will fall from 5.4 per cent in April to 5.3 per cent. The unemployment claimant count is expected to be static, providing further evidence that the tide in the labour market is turning.

On Tuesday, the British Retail Consortium July figures should provide further evidence that a slowdown is under way on the high street. Analysts expect a modest rise in sales from the dismal June figures.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Mayflower Corporation, SFI Group, Yule Catto. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Cairn Energy, British Airways, Epwin Group, Wardle Stores. The Observer: Buy Standard Chartered, Kingfisher, Stakis. The Mail on Sunday: Buy ICM Computing Group. The Express on Sunday: Buy Aortech, Caverdale.

BICC profits harbour costs of Australian restructure



Alan Jones is hoping for calmer waters after selling BICC's stake in an Australian company

BICC: Alan Jones has so far received little reward for his complicated Australian asset-swap which redirected the company four months ago. He has sold the long-held stake in Metal Manufacturers of Australia, and transformed the company into a focused cable-laying operation.

But last month the new group lost a £25 million contract to rival Pirelli and is now under pressure to make substantial cost savings from its newly restructured business. After a £10 million write-off on selling Metal Manufacturers, pre-tax profits are expected to be £38 million (£55 million) and earnings 5p (4.6p) per share.

BRITISH AIRWAYS: Although the strong pound has hurt many Britons away on overseas holidays, it has done BA no favours in trying to compete for other business. The airline will today return passenger growth of 7.7 per cent for its first quarter — a sharp improvement on the 4.3 per cent growth achieved last time. The problem will be in passenger yields — expected to drop by a full percentage point. Operating costs should rise 6 per cent, as the fall in oil prices reduces its fuel bill.

After its expensive battle with the unions last year — which cost some £250 million — the City will be looking for evidence that it can now command greater cost control.

BT Alex Brown expects underlying profits of £100 million (£91 million) and earnings of 6.5p per share (5.5p).

MILLENNIUM & COPTHORNE: While US investors have developed a taste for European hotel assets over the past year, M&C has remained surprisingly inactive. But such caution in the face of rising prices serves to

support M&C's assertion that it will not overpay for assets. That said, it is known to be watching events at The Hoteliers closely in the event a buyer decides to offload one or two choice assets.

The group, still 52.5 per cent owned by Hong Kong-listed CDL Hotels International, should report strong progress across all its operations, which encompass the UK, continental Europe and New York. The blackspot will be

the impact of the closure of the Commodore in Paris for refurbishment. For the half year, Robert Fleming Securities forecasts a 17 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £23.3 million. Earnings per share should be up by a similar figure to about 11.6p, resulting in an interim dividend of 2.85p (2.50p).

NYCOMED AMERSHAM: Iodine seed implants, used for treating prostate cancer,

are expected to emerge as the healthcare technology group's star product when it returns its maiden interim results tomorrow.

Sales of the implants have been restricted only by Nycomed's capacity to produce them. Theragenics, its main rival, has similar production constraints — which leaves a situation where both companies can command very good prices. This should bring in £38 million in the first half

alone. There are concerns about price deflation in its X-Ray division. After renegotiating two key contracts this year, some analysts expect a 15 per cent drop.

The main concern is the strength of the yen. Nycomed relies on Asia Pacific for a third of its profits — mostly selling nuclear medicines and contrast agents to Japan. Currency downgrades are likely. A maiden interim 1.6p dividend is expected from pre-tax profits of £109 million.

INCHCAPE: Heavy exposure to Japan and Hong Kong is likely to cost Inchcape dear when it posts its half-year profits today. It generates about 40 per cent of its business from Asia, and its shares have suffered on expectations of a drop in car leasing and tourism demand. But, in Europe, trading should be more encouraging in its motor dealerships, buoyed by the popularity of Toyota and Mazda.

Its Russian bottling operation has been on the auction block for some time, and analysts will be looking for developments. BT Alex Brown, the broker, has placed a break-up value of 250p a share on the business. Pre-tax profits should be £58 million (£79 million) and earnings 5.7p (8.1p).

CGU: The £15 billion insurance group, created by the merger of General Accident and Commercial Union, returns its first interim results on Wednesday — and is expected to turn in a sharp profit downturn.

The old CU fund managers are rumoured to have backed too many laggards over the past 12 months, but are expected to be bailed out by their shrewder GA counterparts. Operating profits should be £275 million, leaving a net asset value of 703p per share.

TODAY
Interims: British Airways, Inchcape, Orange, Saatchi & Saatchi, Silvermines, Skipton Building Society and WorkSpace Group (Q1). Finals: Sloves. Economic statistics: UK July producer price index.

TOMORROW
Interims: BOC, Epwin Group, Hall Engineering, Headlam, Memory Corp, Millennium & Copthorne, Nymcomed Amersham, Quantica, Sanderson Bramall, Sedgwick, Smith & Nephew, Thompson Clive Invest. Finals: Milner Estates. Economic statistics: BRC July retail sales survey, CBI August regional trends survey.

WEDNESDAY
Interims: BICC, CGU, GA, Morgan Sindall, VDC. Finals: Games Workshop, Westminster Health Care. Economic statistics: July labour market report, Minutes of BoE MPCs July meeting, BoE quarterly inflation report.

THURSDAY
Interims: Danika Business, Independent Insurance, Mediatek. Finals: None.

FRIDAY
Interims: Sherwood International. Finals: Crown Eye-glass and Peterhead.

Table with exchange rates for various currencies including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, and USA.

Midshires challenge for Halifax

A GROUP campaigning to preserve the UK's remaining building societies is planning to call a special general meeting in an attempt to block Halifax's £750 million bid for the Birmingham Midshires.

Save our Building Societies (SOBS) is angry that the Halifax will not allow it to put its own resolutions in the transfer document that is to be mailed to the society's 1.1 million members. A spokesman for SOBS said: "Midshire members must have all the options. We have been down this path before. The threat of an SGM before helped scupper the ridiculous bid by the Royal Bank of Scotland."

It is again the obvious step so that members of the Midshires can have the opportunity to hear both sides of the argument. Under the terms of the Halifax deal, Birmingham Midshires members will get windfalls of around £750. One of the SOBS resolutions calls upon the Birmingham Midshires board to keep the society mutual, while another states that if the society is to be sold, then it should go to the highest bidder.

Business Travel at your fingertips... 100 leading scheduled airlines, with 1,000,000 discount fares to 1,500 destinations. Includes a table of flight routes and prices for various destinations like Dubai, New York, Bangkok, etc.

Akers ousted from Leeds as friend loses confidence

CHRIS AKERS, the flamboyant former City corporate financier, will today announce his departure as chief executive of Leeds Sporting, the group that owns Leeds United Football Club, just two years after taking the helm. He will leave when the group announces its half-year figures in about three weeks' time.

The ousting of Mr Akers — which was first predicted in The Times a month ago — follows moves by his long-time friend and supporter, Richard Thompson, who is one of the company's largest shareholders. Mr Thompson, whose father

founded Hillside Holdings, is a former chairman of Queens Park Rangers and backed Mr Akers's takeover of Leeds two years ago. However, recently, he has become disenchanted by his friend's inability to deliver on grand strategic plans, which included developing an indoor arena next to the Leeds ground at Elland Road and developing multi-media interests.

Last month Mr Akers split the role of chairman and chief executive, and the group appointed Peter Ridsdale, a Leeds retailer, as chairman. Mr Akers's post as chief executive will be taken by Jeremy Fenn, the company's finance director, and the group is hoping to shortly appoint a heavyweight non-executive director.

Mr Fenn is also to move the headquarters of the company to Leeds from London. The fact that the club is run from 200 miles away from its home city has irritated fans and the local council. The council is studying proposals for the new indoor arena along with a leisure development and is expected to rule on planning permission in the next few weeks.

Leeds United has had an eventful time on and off the field since Mr Akers took control. One of his first acts was to oust the then club manager, Howard Wilkinson, and replace him with George Graham, who lives in the same Hampstead block of flats as Richard Thompson.

He then appointed Robin Launders as managing director of the club, only to fire him a year later after a falling-out. Recently, Leeds Sporting's shares have fallen sharply in value. On Friday they closed at 154p, a third of their high last year.

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Managers buy Granada's vending business for £35m

THE management of Granada Vending Services (GVS) has bought out the company from Granada Group, with backing from Barclays Private Equity, the venture capitalists, for £35 million.

GVS provides and services vending machines for UK companies, as well as providing equipment for companies in Granada Group. The sale will allow Granada to invest more of its contract catering arm, Granada Food Services.

Terry Nash, managing director of GVS, emphasised that the company would maintain its agreements with Granada after the management buyout. He said: "We shall maintain and develop our partnership with Granada Food Services to provide us with yet further stability." GVS has more than 400 employees and eight offices around the UK. John Walker, associate director with Barclays Private Equity, said that the automated refreshment machine market was fragmented, which provided GVS with an opportunity for making a purchase. He said: "There are three main companies in the market. The balance is held by small regional players. The automated refreshment market is worth about £400 million per annum and it is growing at 6 and 7 per cent per annum."

He said that the aim was to float the company within three to five years.

Home shopping sales 'to top £10bn'

HOME SHOPPING sales are set to increase to more than £10 billion this year, a rise of nearly 7 per cent, according to a report published today (Sarah Cunningham writes). The report, by Corporate Intelligence on Retailing, suggests that by 2002 home shopping will account for 6.3 per cent of all retail sales, compared with 5.9 per cent in 1997.

Home shopping sales 'to top £10bn' - Includes a table of retail sales forecasts and a list of home shopping companies like Next, Marks & Spencer, etc.

Diageo set to adopt chiefs' reward scheme

DIAGEO'S controversial new executive incentive plan is expected to be waved through at its annual meeting tomorrow, despite opposition from institutions including Standard Life and Norwich Union.

Although Tony Greener, the Diageo chairman, is expected to face "fat-cat" accusations at the meeting, it is understood that proxy votes from other institutional shareholders are predominantly in favour.

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The "Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Public Limited Company. Notice to Holders of Share Warrants to Bearer. Includes details about share warrants, dividends, and contact information for the company secretary.

NEC Corporation. The Annual Report of NEC Corporation for the year ended 31st March, 1998 is available upon request. Includes contact information for NEC Europe Ltd.

سكز لمن لا يمل

THE BOSS
One of the world's leading advertising and marketing groups, it employs 26,000 with a turnover of £7.3 billion and a market capitalisation of £2.65 billion.
Owens Ogilvy & Mather Worldwide, J. Walter Thompson, Hill & Knowlton, Research International and Millward Brown International. Also owns Buchanan Communications and The Henley Centre.

THE BOARD
WPP's architect and driving force is Martin Sorrell, group chief executive since 1986, who created a wide-ranging media services group from what used to be Wire and Plastic Products. Sorrell, 53, was group finance director of Saatchi & Saatchi from 1977 to 1984, and has worked as an adviser to Sir James Gulliver, the food retail entrepreneur. He also worked for Mark McCormack, the sports promoter.

Hamish Maxwell, WPP's non-executive chairman, 71, was chairman and chief executive of Philip Morris from 1984 to 1991. He is a non-executive director of Bankers Trust and Sola International. **Paul Richardson**, 40, group finance director, is a non-executive director of Chime Communications, in which WPP holds 30 per cent. He previously worked for Hanson. **Brian Brooks**, 42, a former partner in Towers Perrin, in New York, is group director of human resources. **Eric Salama**, 37, former joint managing director of The Henley Centre, which WPP owns, is group director of strategy. **Gordon Sampson**, 74, is chief executive, manufacturing, and WPP deputy chairman. He founded Wire and Plastic Products in 1958.

WPP's non-executives include **John Jackson**, 68, chairman of Ladbrokes and non-solicitor chairman of Missoni de Reya. **Jeremy Williams**, 69, was appointed a director in 1989 after 33 years at J.W.T. **John Quelch** is Dean of London Business School, and a Harvard professor. Other non-executives include **Stanley Morben** and **Joel Smilow**.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about WPP Group, that behemoth of advertising and marketing services, is that the company is still in existence at all. By November 1990, Martin Sorrell, WPP's cricket-loving founder, looked set to join John Gunn of British & Commonwealth and George Walker of Brent Walker in the "Hall of Shame" filled with once-great names from the Eighties. WPP, the holding brand for J. Walter Thompson and Ogilvy & Mather Worldwide, was so deeply in hock that it looked as though nothing would save it. A profits warning had sent WPP shares tumbling 66 per cent in four days, luring the hyenas to the feast.

Sorrell is either lucky or a good talker, or both. Not only is WPP still around — indeed, it recently took its place in the FTSE 100 index — but its founder has turned a small fortune into a big one. Hitting various incentive targets (along with the occasional ball) has seen Sorrell walk away with three large dollops of WPP shares. Sinking £2.2 million of his own money into the Capital Investment Plan has seen Sorrell rewarded with a stake of 1 to 2 per cent in WPP — worth £25 million or so.

Alongside JWT and O&M, WPP's brands include Hill & Knowlton and Buchanan Communications in public relations, and myriad market research and specialist communications divisions. There is a 30 per cent stake in Chime Communications, holding company for Bell Pottinger, founded by Lord Bell. For a company which has its head office in London — tucked discreetly behind Farm Street church in Mayfair — WPP is unexpectedly reliant on the fortunes of Madison Avenue. Advertising provides WPP with just over half its revenues. Long-standing clients include Ford (WPP's biggest client), Philip Morris, American Express, Kellogg, and Eastman Kodak. America accounts for between 40 and 50 per cent of world advertising expenditure, compared with 7 to 8 per cent in the UK. About 45 per cent of WPP shares are held by US institutions. Sorrell spends about a third of his time in America, and covers Europe through day-trips from London. He tackles the emerging markets with a "big tour" every two years, but will fly off at short notice when necessary. He is away for 50 to 60



Martin Sorrell, the man who founded WPP, has overseen a transformation in the fortunes of the international advertising and marketing group. Building on established clients such as Ford and Unilever, owner of the PG Tips brand, WPP is expanding into Japan and Asian emerging markets.

per cent of the year. Whatever its problems, Asia Pacific remains WPP's most important emerging market region. Many of its clients are Western multinationals working locally, ring-fencing the group to some extent. Latin America is a close second. Third is Central and Eastern Europe, led by Russia, with 150 million people and a growing appetite for Western brands. Africa and the Middle East are fourth, but they have slipped down the scale in the past four years.

WPP's business is split roughly 40 per cent America, 40 per cent Europe and 20 per cent emerging markets. Sorrell would like to see this even out to a third each, with a swing to faster growing areas such as India and Mexico. WPP is intent on raising its presence in Australia and in Japan, the world's second big-

gest advertising market, where it has just clinched a joint venture deal with Asatsu, the third-biggest Japanese agency. With debt down from £500 million to £100 million, and WPP rated two notches above investment grade, attention has turned to the way in which WPP interacts with its front-line brands. Sorrell says: "We want to get away from the parent company being viewed as a financial holding company, and from the company being

viewed as a conglomerate. It's about adding value from the centre, in addition to things like financial planning, budgeting and control." He draws a comparison with Unilever, WPP's second biggest client, which marries a corporate brand with different operating brands. Investors buy shares in Unilever, while shoppers are more familiar with Flora margarine or Persil washing powder. With WPP, the spotlight falls on frontline brands such as JWT and O&M. Sorrell says: "Maintaining the separateness of the brands is important, but at the same time, it's important to ensure that they co-operate — they have to kiss and punch at the same time. I don't want WPP to be seen as a marketing conglomerate. I want it to be seen as a focused communications services group, and the parts have

to walk together. "Somebody joining Ogilvy should want to join Ogilvy, but should see added benefits of Ogilvy being part of WPP. The same goes for clients. We are seeking to get the operating companies and clients to understand that there is value in WPP, but it is JWT that wins Merrill Lynch, not WPP. If a client has a communications issue, we, WPP, its constituent companies, are the natural place they go for advice." Sorrell divides WPP's short life into three distinct phases: the initial surge, survival, and rebirth. The "surge" was an orgy, with WPP in 1987 hiring off more than it could chew, when it paid £351 million for JWT, ten times its size. In May 1989, WPP paid £438 million for Ogilvy & Mather, prompting David Ogilvy to opine: "God, the idea of being taken over by that odious little

jerk really gives me the creeps." The buying spree left WPP saddled with crippling levels of debt just as recession began to bite.

The turning point came in April 1991 when the banks agreed a \$1 billion (£600 million) refinancing. Today, WPP has about £100 million in cash at its disposal annually, with half the money going on a rolling programme of share buy-backs, and the rest devoted to acquisitions. Sorrell says: "There are specialist areas that we're carving out: health-care, high-tech, marketing, retailing, entertainment and media and financial services. Those are all areas that are the hottest growing in our industry and where we want to be experts." WPP has bought into six or seven new media companies at a cost of £15 million.

Sorrell has over the years been branded a bean counter as well as a jerk: someone who imposed budgets and other unspeakable horrors on the free-spirits of advertising. Such a remark would once have been greeted by a petulant sticking-out-of-elbows, but Sorrell has mellowed. He retorts: "The classic thing is I'm described as being an accountant. Well, I ain't an accountant. I did happen to go to Harvard Business School for a while, but that's as close as I got. I think of myself as a businessman — someone who got into this industry by accident."

The storm clouds are gathering, but this time, Sorrell is ready with his umbrella. "Do I believe that the cycle has gone? No. Do I think there will be a correction? Yes. I've got no idea when. I think the Asian issues are greater than people see them, and we may start to see a greater impact by the end of the year."

JON ASHWORTH

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Ethical expression..... | 3/10 |
| Fat-cat quotient..... | 3/10 |
| Financial record..... | 8/10 |
| Share performance..... | 8/10 |
| Attitude to staff..... | 7/10 |
| Strength of brand..... | 8/10 |
| Innovation..... | 8/10 |
| Annual report..... | 8/10 |
| City star rating..... | 9/10 |
| Future prospects..... | 7/10 |
| Total..... | 69/100 |

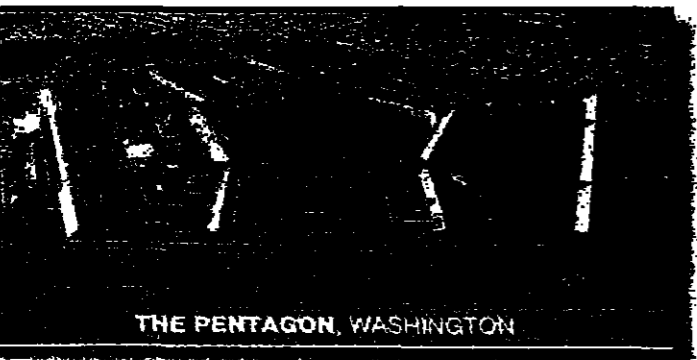
Ethical expression is assessed by *Company Watch*. The Fat-cat quotient, in which best boardroom pay package scores highest, is provided by *Company Watch*.

Data rev...
service sta...
falling to

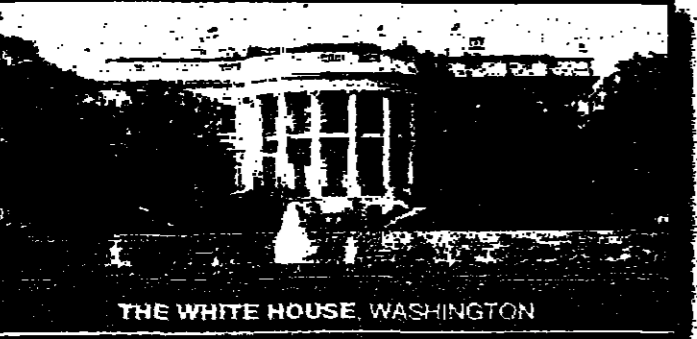


AN EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES

WIN AN X-FILES HOLIDAY



THE PENTAGON, WASHINGTON



THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON



Readers of *The Times* have the exclusive chance to win an exciting VIP fly-drive holiday for two to America, tailored for *X-Files* fans, courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox. The winner will visit the home towns of agents Fox Mulder and Dana Scully, Martha's Vineyard and Annapolis respectively, and spend two nights in Washington to tour the White House and Pentagon. Fans of the cult show, now a major film, will have no difficulty with our crossword, specially devised to coincide with the release at UK cinemas on August 21 of the *X-Files*, starring David Duchovny and Gillian Anderson. FBI special agents Mulder and Scully are drawn into a web of intrigue while investigating the mysterious bombing of a Dallas office building — and the secrets buried inside. As well as the six-night holiday, there are 50 runners-up prizes of limited-edition *X-Files* merchandise to be won.

THE TIMES/X-FILES COMPETITION

Fill in this entry form, attach your completed crossword and post them to: *The Times/X-Files Competition*, PO Box 5070, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FZ. Crosswords must be received by Tuesday, September 1 1998.

Title _____ Initials _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Day tel _____

Why I would like to see inside the Pentagon _____

1. On which days do you usually buy *The Times*?
 Monday Tuesday Wednesday
 Thursday Friday Saturday
 Don't usually buy *The Times*

2. Which other national daily newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?

3. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy almost always (3-4 copies per month)?

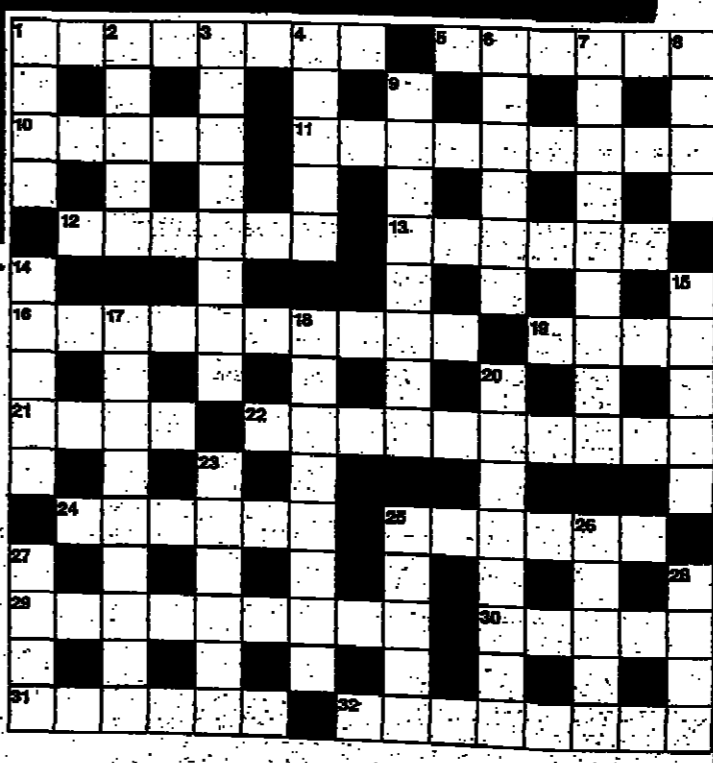
4. Which national Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy quite often (1-2 copies per month)?

If you would prefer not to receive information and offers from organisations carefully selected by *The Times*, please tick

HOW TO ENTER For your chance to win a VIP trip to America, you must successfully complete the *X-Files* crossword. Every day until Saturday we will publish more of the clues. You must also complete the tie-breaker on the entry form, in less than 10 words. Send your entry, before Tuesday, September 1, 1998, to: *The Times/X-Files Competition*, PO Box 5070, Leighton Buzzard, LU7 7FZ. No photocopied crosswords will be accepted.

ACROSS
 1 Most of youth, note, Mulder lived here (8).
 5 See Dana use antidote, party for this? (6).
 10 Like an extraterrestrial body, strangely unreal with one part missing (5).

DOWN
 1 Line in clip showing status of *X-Files* (4).
 2 Taking section of FBI on, I court-martialed order (5).
 3 State of Scully's education (8).



CHANGING TIMES

Should we care about equities turmoil?

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Doubtless Chairman Mao would not have welcomed the use of his aphorism in relation to the doings of those capitalist running dogs in the stock market. Nevertheless, it is appropriate. Despite the beginnings of a bounce at the end of last week, recent stock market losses could easily turn into a serious rout. But would it matter? Never mind those breathy stock market "strategists" with their overblown language. Should the rest of us care a fig?

It is tempting to say "no". The 1987 crash provides a template. Remember the sheer scale of that event. On Black Monday the stock market both here and in the US lost almost a quarter of its value and there was a widespread fear that this would usher in a recession. Accordingly, central banks around the world, including the Bank of England, reduced interest rates. They were worried because of what had happened in the 1930s, for the Great Depression

had been ushered in by the collapse of Wall Street in 1929, and was worsened by the excessively conservative behaviour of central banks. In the event, far from heralding a recession, the 1987 stock market crash was followed by an economic boom.

So why did the crash of 1987 apparently have so little effect? In continental Europe many companies were unquoted and stock market values were of little relevance. Even in the United States and Britain, where a high proportion of companies was quoted, the bulk of the shares were held indirectly, in pension funds and insurance policies. Most people would not even be aware of what their indirect holdings were worth. And in any case, in the UK, it was normal for pensions to be tied to final salaries. Moreover, in 1987 the sheer

speed of the previous rise in the market had been extraordinary. Even after the crash, share prices were only back to where they had been a year earlier. It is doubtful that people had adapted to the previous inflated level of share prices so why should they react to the crash?

Many of these same arguments can be adduced today. But there is a vital difference. As we now know, when the market crashed in 1987, the momentum of the real economy was very strong. In particular, in this country, the fact that the housing market still had some way to go to reach its peak was highly significant. And contrary to many fears, in 1987 the international system's weakest link, namely the Japanese stock market, held up well.

If the equity market were to crash now, however, it would hit



an international economy which is already on the way down, with Asia chronically weak and the US and UK slowing. In particular, there would almost certainly be a major knock-on effect on Asian stock markets. After all, one of their major supports is that Western markets are so high that the prospective returns there are very

low. Better to take a punt that Asian markets may recover. But if Western markets plunged, this argument would go into reverse. Asian shares would be marked down in sympathy with Wall Street. In today's world, bullishness and bearishness spread round the stock markets of the globe like a bush fire.

However, isolated Western economies may be from their stock markets, the same is not true in Asia. Indeed, in Japan, because of the banks' direct and indirect involvement in the stock market, the whole financial structure would be threatened by a further sharp fall of the Nikkei index. Accordingly, the Asian economic crisis would be intensified — and that would pose a serious threat to the West. More deflation in the Far East would mean yet weaker Asian demand for Western ex-

ports and for raw materials, while helping Asian countries to export even more cheaply. If this were carried far enough, then they would even export some of their deflation to the West.

Would our central banks respond by cutting interest rates? There has to be a serious doubt. For a start, the received wisdom on the 1987 episode is that the central banks exacerbated the subsequent inflationary boom by cutting rates unnecessarily. They might not want to risk repeating the same "mistake" now. The MPC's decision last week to leave interest rates unchanged was a welcome relief, but if markets plunged around the world, would it have the courage to reduce rates? Might it not still find reason to be worried by the latest numbers on the growth of average earnings? Fortunately, on all

known form, the US Fed's Alan Greenspan would have both the vision and the courage to reduce interest rates, and he has the credibility to sustain the confidence of the markets.

But there is a weak link — Europe. Not that European growth is likely to be low. Rather, the problem is that the European policymaker's eye has been taken off the ball. If the balloon does go up, the new European Central Bank is still likely to be transfixed by the problems of measuring the euro money supply and the euro inflation rate — at just the time that it should be worrying about the euro deflation rate.

Still, let us hope that the bears are wrong and that this particular reading of the last rites, like all the others, will prove premature. Or if not, at least let us hope that the stock market can fall a long way without doing serious damage to the economy. After all, investors have always known, haven't they, that prices can go down as well as up?

Data reveals rail service standards falling to new low

By FRASER NELSON

BIRMINGHAM commuters are suffering from the sharpest fall off in train service since privatisation began, according to official figures to be released this week.

Chiltern Railways has more than quadrupled the level of late services running from London to Birmingham — transforming one of the most punctual lines in Britain into the third-worst.

Services around Wales, Oxford and Manchester run by Go-Ahead, FirstGroup and Prisma, have also spun into sharp decline — exposing all three transport groups to fines which could run into millions of pounds.

Chiltern, owned by a management buyout team, accepted its failings but pointed out that its profits were intact. It said in a statement: "Over recent months, we have failed to achieve our normal high standards for punctuality. We recognise this is unacceptable."



O'Brien given information

It said it was recruiting more drivers and adding new trains in an attempt to recover — and added that its business was still growing 15 per cent year-on-year.

John O'Brien, rail franchising director, has been given data which shows that the rest of Britain's railway network is still in the serious decline it entered last year.

created by privatisation, 19 are running less punctual services over April, May and June. Of the 64 services run under these franchises, 45 have deteriorated.

The information, which has been independently compiled by The Times, is certain to rile John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, who will soon replace Mr O'Brien's office with a Strategic Rail Authority.

This will have the power to impose instant and unlimited fines on companies that are underperforming.

Virgin's Cross Country franchise will be named the least punctual in Britain, keeping passengers waiting for one in five services.

The company, jointly-owned between Richard Branson and Stagecoach, has, however, pulled its West Coast franchise on a par with other long-distance journeys. ScotRail, run by National Express, will again emerge as both the worst performer and the best overall.

| Name of operator | % late 1997 | % late 1998 | Route operated |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Chiltern (MBO) | 2.7 | 12 | (London to Birmingham) |
| Cardiff Railway (Prisma) | 4.2 | 14 | (Short distance around Cardiff) |
| Anglia Railways (GB Rail) | 1.5 | 4.6 | (Norwich to St Yarmouth) |
| North Western (FirstGroup) | 2.4 | 6.9 | (Merseyside City Lines) |
| Wales & West (Prisma) | 5.3 | 14 | (Around Avon area) |
| Thames Trains (Go-Ahead) | 8.1 | 18 | (London to Oxford) |
| North Western (FirstGroup) | 4.2 | 8.4 | (Manchester South) |
| Connex South Eastern (Connex) | 6.3 | 11 | (Kent Coast line to Victoria) |
| South West Trains (Stagecoach) | 6.0 | 9.3 | (Suburban, to London Waterloo) |

Source: OpRAF Train Operating Companies. Data taken in April 1 through June 21.



Bengt Ovinger, managing director of Volvo Construction Equipment which bought a division of South Korea's Samsung

Emerging market deals top \$34bn

By RICHARD MILES

SOUTH-EAST ASIA provided rich pickings for Western companies during the first half of 1998, as the value of mergers and acquisitions in emerging markets reached \$34 billion (£21 billion).

A survey by Robert Fleming Securities, the broking arm of the UK merchant bank, shows that companies from developed nations accounted for 85 per cent of the deals done in emerging markets, with South Korea and Thailand attracting the most cross-border bids.

Cross-border M&A activity in Korea amounted to \$5.4 billion in 15 deals which

More insurance mergers tipped

By MARIANNE CURPHEY, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

The number of insurance groups across Europe is expected to be more than halved over the next five years as a result of further consolidation.

Industry observers expect the number of insurers to fall from 4,000 to between 1,200 and 1,500 in the medium term. The pressure for mergers and takeovers has come about because of increasing demand for shareholder value.

Patrick Devine, of the US legal firm Akin, Gump, Strauss Hauer & Feld, said: "Although manuals do not have the expense of quarterly reporting and maximising

Shell to pay £145m over Stealth

SHELL has been ordered to pay \$236 million (about £145 million) in damages as part of a \$760 million award made to 38 Lockheed Martin workers exposed to hazardous chemicals while working on the Stealth bomber project (Our City Staff writes).

In a decision released on Friday, a jury ordered Exxon, Shell, Unocal, Ashland and DuPont to pay punitive damages to the workers. The judgment is in addition to \$25.4 million the companies were ordered to pay the previous week in compensatory damages to the employees or their families.

The Superior Court lawsuit was filed on behalf of Lockheed employees who worked on the radar-evading jet during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s at the top-secret Skunk Works plant in Burbank. Lockheed was not part of the suit; the company paid \$33 million in 1992 to settle claims against it.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 33

FARAD
(a) An SI unit (symbol F) of electrical capacitance where one farad is a capacity of one coulomb per volt.

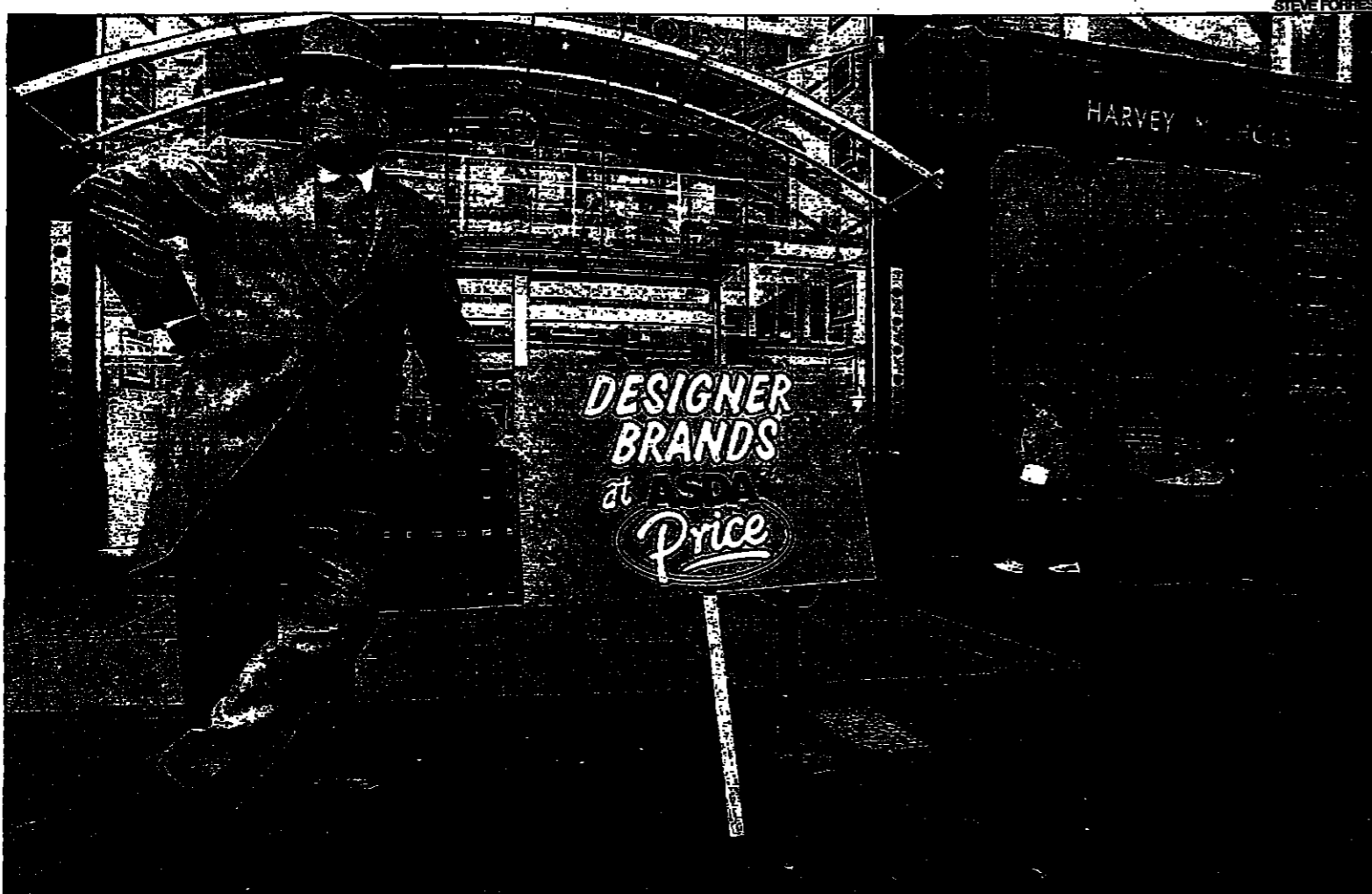
POLYPLOID
(c) A term in genetics for the possession of three or more sets of chromosomes in cases where the normal complement is two sets.

ZIGURAT
(a) In ancient Babylonia and Assyria, a steep pyramid of sun-baked brick faced with glazed bricks or tiles on which stood a shrine.

PHYLLOXERA
(b) Any of a family of small plant-sucking insects that attack leaves and roots.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
1. Rd4! traps the black queen.

| 1998 High | Low | Mid cap (million) | Price | Div | Yld % | P/E | 1998 High | Low | Mid cap (million) | Price | Div | Yld % | P/E | 1998 High | Low | Mid cap (million) | Price | Div | Yld % | P/E | |
|-----------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|-------|------|-----------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|-------|------|-----------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|-------|-----|------|
| 191 | 74 | 20.0 | 120 | -16 | 7.3 | 29 | 230 | 170 | 2.7 | 172 | -12 | 9.1 | 48 | 255 | 205 | 19.0 | 328 | 26 | -9 | 3.8 | ... |
| 129 | 119 | 16.7 | 120 | -2 | 7.3 | 29 | 230 | 170 | 2.7 | 172 | -12 | 9.1 | 48 | 255 | 205 | 19.0 | 328 | 26 | -9 | 3.8 | ... |
| 157 | 144 | 8.5 | 120 | -2 | 7.3 | 29 | 230 | 170 | 2.7 | 172 | -12 | 9.1 | 48 | 255 | 205 | 19.0 | 328 | 26 | -9 | 3.8 | ... |
| 271 | 180 | 33.0 | 120 | -1 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 342 | 225 | 36.5 | 120 | -3 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 47 | 34 | 7.1 | 120 | -3 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 7 | 3 | 3.0 | 120 | -3 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 59 | 36 | 3.0 | 120 | -3 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 110 | 67 | 12.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 129 | 67 | 12.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 109 | 30.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 119 | 72 | 3.8 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 352 | 261 | 8.1 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 129 | 165 | 7.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 74 | 8.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 100 | 65 | 4.2 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 425 | 256 | 82.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 72 | 57 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 69 | 34 | 27.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 239 | 124 | 37.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 317 | 220 | 35.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 12 | 2 | 1.1 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 47 | 15.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 7 | 1.1 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
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| 117 | 67 | 1.5 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 38 | 47 | 5.7 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
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| 44 | 30 | 16.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 156 | 24 | 2.5 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | 18.3 | 40 | 195 | 22.0 | 22 | -5 | 2.8 | 51.9 | 418 | 395 | 32.1 | 110 | 4 | -1 | 2.8 | 24.7 |
| 109 | 8 | 14.0 | 120 | -2 | 4.1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |



An Asda employee uses the promise of discounts on brand name goods in an attempt to lure customers away from Harvey Nichols in Leeds

Do Tesco and Asda know something that we don't?

As supermarkets stage stunts to challenge the EU ruling that outlaws the selling of cheap designer goods, Bernard A. Whyatt, a barrister who specialises in trade marks, explains how British retail groups might proceed without breaking the law

At first sight it seems strange that Tesco and Asda are prepared to face the wrath of brand owners and invite the risk of "deep pocket" litigation by selling trade marked goods. Tesco is in hot water for selling jeans imported from outside Europe and offering them in this country without the permission of the trade mark owner, Levi's. Asda it seems is offering brands which also could have been bought outside Europe. The two supermarket companies will be all too aware of a recent decision of the European Court of Justice, the *Silhouette* case concerning sunglasses imported into Europe from Bulgaria and the states of the former USSR restricting the rights of importers of branded goods. The European Court allowed brand owners the right to ask courts throughout the EU to prevent branded goods imported from outside Europe being sold in member states of the EU. Brand owners are thus able to prevent "parallel importing", or dealing in "grey market goods". However, things may not be so cut and dried for the canny parallel importer. Given the enormous price differentials in the current costs of designer clothes in New York and London it seems a pity to miss out on that profit. With a little research not only could the potential parallel importer get round what some regard as an unjustifiable monopoly, but he may also save himself a great deal of grief. Tesco and Asda will be aware that a legal defence based on European competition law is unlikely to succeed. Probably because of this Tesco has appealed directly to the Commission in Brussels. Such an appeal is more likely than not to fall on deaf ears. Until European law is changed, Tesco and others indulging in international parallel importing are likely to find themselves on the wrong side of a High Court writ and injunction without a decent defence. There could be a way out for the international parallel importer to bring in grey market goods while retaining a defence against an action for trade mark infringement. However, in order to do so, such an importer is well advised to check with a legal adviser in the country from which he intends import and ask: "Has this country recognised and adopted the doctrine of the international exhaustion of rights?" If the answer to the question is "yes" then the parallel importer may find that he has an arguable defence should the trade mark owner sue for infringement in this country. International exhaustion of rights is a legal doctrine recognised in many countries of the world. It means that if an importer (a) buys branded goods in one country; and (b) those goods have been sold with the permission of the trade mark owner; and (c) the goods are exported to another country, in which the trade mark owner also has a valid trade mark; and (d) if in that second country the importer is challenged by the trade mark owner of the goods that he bought, the importer usually has a valid defence of international exhaustion of rights in the country in which he sold those goods. To claim this defence the

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When will our leaders get their priorities right, avoid putting all their eggs in one basket and recognise that inward investment of this type

be recognisable in EU member states and if the court refused to recognise that concept, that decision could be challenged. Thus to rely on the defence, the international importer should have done some homework first, preferably in the country in which he proposed to purchase the trade marked goods. Only if the international parallel importer is reasonably certain that the country in which he proposes to purchase the trade marked goods recognises the doctrine of international exhaustion of rights should he contemplate going ahead. The doctrine of reciprocity is alive and well in other areas of European law, especially competition law and European transport law, but it is untested in trade mark law, but I see no reason why that doctrine is not applicable to trade mark law at least by analogy. However, to conclusively test the proposition would require a case to be brought to the attention of the European Court exactly on this point. It is perhaps with this in mind that Asda and Tesco have taken their provocative action. *□ Bernard A. Whyatt practises in the Chambers of Christopher Morcom, QC*

Mutual societies deserve more commercial freedom

From Mr Rupert Edwards
Sir, As one who voted against demutualisation of both the Halifax Building Society and Norwich Union, I applaud the recent Nationwide vote and welcome the idea of legislation to strengthen the position of mutual societies. be they building societies or in the banking and insurance fields. I am appalled at the views of Rosalind Gilmore and at the obvious support given by your City Editor (report and Commentary, July 30). Bright Mrs Gilmore may be, but she is also very selective in the arguments that she brings to bear. Neither she nor your City Editor mention the highly (often unnecessarily) restrictive regimes that she, in her roles as Building Societies Commissioner and Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, enforced and under which mutual organisations have been required to operate in the past. I have not noticed either her or her successors publicly advocating easing the constraints imposed on mutual organisations, although admittedly to have done so during the period 1979 to 1997 would probably not have been a good career move for an ambitious public servant. Instead of deriding the fact that the Nationwide is and has been a powerful presence in the highest strata, it should be a matter of congratulation by the Mrs Gilmore of this world that, in such a repressive environment, mutual organisations can exert influence and often take the lead in raising the standards of financial institutions as a whole. I would remind you and your readers that the roots of the Nationwide lie in the Co-operative movement and that it has been the Co-operative Bank, the nearest thing to a mutual organisation allowed under banking law, which has taken the lead, together with other mutuals, in fair-charging policies and ethical investment. Powerful mutual organisations should be allowed to operate with the same commercial freedoms as their public-liability counterparts, but it should also be recognised that their status deserves special protection. Yours faithfully, RUPERT EDWARDS, 9 Cardinal Close, Colchester CO4 3UU.

The real cost of financing inward investment

From Mr K. P. Grainger
Sir, Last week, accompanied by two associates, I was in the Department of Trade and Industry discussing with officials the problems entrepreneurs experience in trying to finance new high-technology businesses. At around the same time Siemens, a global high-tech business, announced its departure from the North East of England. The cost of the Government's inducements to Siemens could have started well in excess of 600 new ventures. Many more people would have been employed, and even a proportion of failures would not have resulted in expensive unemployment. The risk would have been spread, and without undue reliance on a one-product business. When will our leaders get their priorities right, avoid putting all their eggs in one basket and recognise that inward investment of this type

CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar 1.6326 (-0.0029)
German mark 2.8938 (-0.0153)
Exchange index 103.9 (-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

FT 30 share 3662.1 (-44.1)
FTSE 100 5680.4 (-156.6)
New York Dow Jones 8598.02 (-285.27)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge 15829.17 (-649.80)

TELEVISION CHOICE

Unity in troubled times

The Day That Changed My Life
BBC2, 7.30pm

It was not so much a single day that changed things for Carol Foster, but a series of events adding up to an *annus horribilis*. This began with the wedding between Foster's son, Nick, and Nancy, who was born in Jamaica and had two grown-up children. The families did not hit it off and Nancy's son, stayed away from the ceremony. Two weeks later Simon and his sister, Neshia, were charged with the murder of a young woman who had burgled and set fire to Neshia's house. During the year her children were in prison on remand, and throughout their trial, Nancy found an unwavering ally in her mother-in-law. In adversity the two women forgot their initial differences and developed a close bond which has endured. This direct, honest and often moving film was made by Foster's daughter.

Carol Foster and Nancy formed a bond in adversity (BBC2, 7.30pm)

diaries of Rex King, who when he was not busy as a land examiner for the United States Government was a predatory paedophile who claimed to have molested more than 800 boys and girls. Apart from the reliability of King's entries, which Kinsey accepted uncritically, the film questions the morality of Kinsey's involvement with King and his like. Although Kinsey is long since dead, debate rumbles on with the Kinsey Institute sturdily defending its founder's reputation.

Sacred Seeds
Channel 4, 10.55pm

The series about poisonous plants said to produce hallucinations features the salvian divinorum, hallucinogens in Mexico. It is used by the Mazatec Indian tribe to cure illnesses and induce visions, including those of the plant's patroness, the Virgin Mary. Tonight the salvian divinorum is put under scientific scrutiny by the anthropologist Dr Andrew Sherratt. Two volunteers, Daniel, a young American who has used the plant before, and Sean, an Englishman who comes new to it, are put through a controlled dose and then chew the leaves. Neither experiences a vision of the Virgin Mary. It must be said, but the results are tangible enough to engage the experts Sherratt has brought in. But as tends to happen with experts, they cannot agree on what it all means. Peter Davall

RADIO CHOICE

BBC Proms 98
Radio 3, 7.00pm

We've got Stanley Kubrick to thank for introducing us to Richard Strauss's tone poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. The tremendous fanfare that launched the work also launched Kubrick's *2001 - A Space Odyssey*. We heard no more than 90 seconds of it in the cinema, but it had a powerful impact on both the film and on us. In tonight's Proms, we are treated to just what wonderful music remains to be heard when the long, low organ note that ends the *Space Odyssey* theme fades away. There is another cinema link at the Albert Hall tonight, and it is Dukas's *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* which, thanks to Walt Disney's *Fantasia* finally guaranteed Mickey Mouse's immortality.

RADIO 1
6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball 9.00am Simon Mayo 11.30am Radio 1 Roadshow from Glasgow, includes 12.30pm *Weekend Update* 2.00pm *Ask* 3.00pm *News* 5.45pm *Newsbeat* 6.00pm Dave Pearce 6.30pm *Linn* 7.30pm *Mary Anne Hobbs* 12.00pm *The Breakfast* 2.00pm *Charlie Jordan* 4.00pm *Che Watan*

RADIO 2
6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30am *Wake Up to Wogan* 8.30am *Johnnie Walker* 12.00pm *Johnnie Walker* 2.00pm *Alex Lester* 5.05pm *Johnnie Walker* 7.00pm *Humphrey Lyttelton* 8.00pm *Big Band Special* 8.30pm *The Chart* 9.00pm *Radio 2* 10.00pm *Radio 2* 11.00pm *Radio 2* 12.00pm *Radio 2* 1.00pm *Radio 2* 2.00pm *Radio 2* 3.00pm *Radio 2* 4.00pm *Radio 2* 5.00pm *Radio 2* 6.00pm *Radio 2* 7.00pm *Radio 2* 8.00pm *Radio 2* 9.00pm *Radio 2* 10.00pm *Radio 2* 11.00pm *Radio 2* 12.00pm *Radio 2* 1.00pm *Radio 2* 2.00pm *Radio 2* 3.00pm *Radio 2* 4.00pm *Radio 2* 5.00pm *Radio 2* 6.00pm *Radio 2* 7.00pm *Radio 2* 8.00pm *Radio 2* 9.00pm *Radio 2* 10.00pm *Radio 2* 11.00pm *Radio 2* 12.00pm *Radio 2* 1.00pm *Radio 2* 2.00pm *Radio 2* 3.00pm *Radio 2* 4.00pm *Radio 2* 5.00pm *Radio 2* 6.00pm *Radio 2* 7.00pm *Radio 2* 8.00pm *Radio 2* 9.00pm *Radio 2* 10.00pm *Radio 2* 11.00pm *Radio 2* 12.00pm *Radio 2* 1.00pm *Radio 2* 2.00pm *Radio 2* 3.00pm *Radio 2* 4.00pm *Radio 2* 5.00pm *Radio 2* 6.00pm 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If zumer is icumen in, we should all go out

The annual Festival of Traps in Trash that constitutes what are laughingly known as the August television schedules makes the best case so far for the spread of pay per view, or at least a graduated licence fee. Why do we pay the same amount to watch this rubbish as for the (more or less) watchable material transmitted in the winter?

These thoughts occurred watching all channels at the weekend, not least during Man O Man (ITV, Saturday) a show that involves the eyes and ears, leaving plenty of time to think of the 6,429 better ways there are to spend 45 minutes, ranging from watching half a football match to walking barefoot on a single beach.

Man O Man is back for two "specials", presented by Chris Tarrant. The idea is that ten young men parade before an audience consisting of what Tarrant accurately calls "400 buying women".

The contestants perform assorted tasks - singing, dancing, miming, kissing. After each round, the buying women vote on "special" electronic voting devices, no doubt rented - by BBC Resources during Question Time's off-season. So the losers are eliminated, by means of a celebrity who pushes the contestant into a pool.

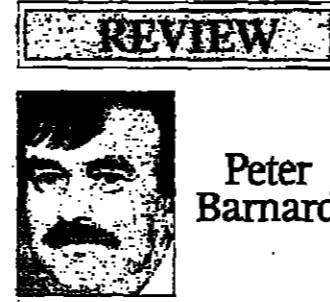
The ITV spin doctors wish us to believe that the programme is ironic and witty; in fact it is morose and pitiful. But compelling. Start watching and you cannot switch off. Although not at the same end of the intellectual spectrum, Man O Man is like a play by Samuel Beckett: you sit there willing something interesting to happen. By the time you realise that nothing is going to happen, it's all over.

Tarrant's buying women buy without respite: they are serial buyers. As with other mindless tribal activity, from the Mexican

wave to the January sales, the participants would make good subjects for a Desmond Morris documentary. Why are they there? Do they come in charabancs? What trick of physiology is it that causes their arms to thrust upwards whenever their mouths open, as with Dominic Cork appealing for a wicket?

I Man O Man is proof of the irony that nobody ever went broke underestimating the intelligence of the public, there are programmes elsewhere with much worthier pretensions that are no less of a disappointment. The third part of The American Dream (BBC2, last night) was better than the first two but the series as a whole continues to disappoint.

The trouble with the first two parts is repeated here: the series masquerades as stories of the hopes and aspirations of ordinary mortals but in fact it merely uses



Peter Barnard

these people to tell the story of American institutions. Last night, with the arrival of the turbulent 1960s, we got a slightly better sense of the individual, but I still yawned at the same old stuff: the battle for civil rights in the South, the subsequent rioting by disillusioned blacks, the anti-Vietnam War protests, the assassinations. Television has worn this material to the bone in documentaries

about Vietnam, about civil rights, about, indeed, the 1960s, the most rarely-visited decade in history, in part because it contained the formative years of so many of us who were to end up in the media.

The American Dream would work far better if it was about ordinary people making their way in America in spite of these events. But the events dominate the people. The availability of archive footage once more becomes the master of the agenda and that footage overwhelms the fundobly interesting individual Americans who are slotted in around it.

Hopes rose with the arrival on screen of Dick Manoff, son of a first-generation Russian immigrant who had come to America with nothing but the clothes he stood up in. Dick was to become head of a large New York public relations company, a company that would one day be among those called in to "sell" the Viet-

nam War to the American people. "It didn't do any good," as Dick put it, showing a flair for understatement. But this promising scenario soon faded and the Manoffs, like the other families, became a vehicle for the programme's obsession with the big picture.

And so to Bob Monkhouse: Over The Limit (BBC1, Saturday), another August is a wicked month number which nevertheless came as a great relief to me. You remember that news story about Monkhouse having his joke books stolen? I seem to have missed the follow up, so I had no idea if Monkhouse got them back. He did. He read them out last night in a show that was like one of those Audience With... programmes, only without the audience interaction. Monkhouse reckoned the programme was his obituary: "It bears a suspicious resemblance to something the

BBC has been waiting to put out for five years." But the great thing about Monkhouse is that his old material is impossible to tell from the new stuff, though I suspect there is more sex now. Monkhouse is essentially a ham and one whose self-deprecation balances his somewhat smarmy image. "I know I'm a ham. I can take three bows on a waitress smacking a ketchup bottle." On a weekend of turkeys, thank God for a ham.

BBC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (80045)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (7) (80229)
9.00 The Today Programme (7) (809071)
10.00 Easy Money Personal finance quiz (1987619)
10.30 Good Neighbours (8061132)
10.40 News (7) (8021774)
10.50 International Cricket: Fifth Test - England vs South Africa...

BBC2

- 6.10am News Stories (7) (7988836)
7.00 Open a Door (7) (8463831)
10.25 Secret Life of Toys (7) (8555522)
1.05 Top Gear Motorsport including the Scottish Hill Rally...

HTV

- 6.00am GMTV (8196854)
9.25 The Jerry Springer Show (7) (3079403)
10.30 Eight is Enough: A Family Reunion (1987) with Dick Van Patten...

CENTRAL

- As HTV West except:
1.00pm A Country Practice (75564)
1.30 Lunch in the Sun (7553765)
2.15-3.15 High Road (105720)
5.40-5.45 Shortland Street (1811287)...

CHANNEL 4

- 7.00am The Big Breakfast (70039)
9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (1872443)
1.55 The Sleeping Tiger (1954) A young criminal (Dick Bogarde) agrees to become a psychiatrist's guinea pig...

CHANNEL 5

- CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on Astra Satellites. Viewers with a Videopoint decoder will be able to receive the channel free of charge.
8.00am News and Sport (8529818)
9.25 Second Month New children's comedy series (1872774)
12.00 News (7) and weather (8021126)...

VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes

- The numbers after each programme are for VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes. For more details on the VIDEO Plus+ system, call 0540 750710. Call charged at 25p per minute at all times.
VIDEO Plus+ 14, 14 Madras Tric, London, SW9 2PZ
VIDEO Plus+ is a registered trademark of Gemstar Development Corporation, © 1998

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

- 8.00am A Choice of Disappointment (1987) (80504)
8.30 Easy Living (1987) (81881)
12.00 A Choice of Disappointment (1987) (80504)
2.00pm Easy Living (1987) (81881)
3.30 The Velveteen Rabbit (1946) (81903)
5.00 A Walk in the Clouds (1995) (1270742)
7.30 Special Feature: The 30 Greatest Movies of All Time (1995) (85542)
10.00 The Great Escape (1963) (80504)
12.00 The Great Escape (1963) (80504)
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SKY SPORTS 1

- 7.00am Football: FA Charity Shield (85720)
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SATELLITE AND CABLE

- 8.00 Ene, Indiana 10.00 Goosebumps
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PARAMOUNT COMEDY

- 7.00pm The Seven Year Itch (1955)
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9.00pm The Seven Year Itch (1955)
10.00pm The Seven Year Itch (1955)
11.00pm The Seven Year Itch (1955)
12.00am The Seven Year Itch (1955)

CARTOON NETWORK

- All your favourite cartoons broadcast from 12.00pm to 2.00pm, 5.00pm to 7.00pm, and 9.00pm to 11.00pm.
12.00pm The Simpsons (1989)
1.00pm The Simpsons (1989)
2.00pm The Simpsons (1989)
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10.00pm The Simpsons (1989)
11.00pm The Simpsons (1989)
12.00am The Simpsons (1989)

NICKELODEON

- 8.00am The Dr Seuss' Pickin' It Up
9.00am The Dr Seuss' Pickin' It Up
10.00am The Dr Seuss' Pickin' It Up
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12.00am The Dr Seuss' Pickin' It Up

SKY BOX OFFICE

For further listings see Saturday's Vision Sky 1

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Football: FA Charity Shield (85720)

UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads (1989) 7.30 Neighbors (1993) 8.00 The 24 Hour Party People (1998)

DISNEY CHANNEL

8.00am The Disney Channel

FOX KIDS NETWORK

8.00am The Fox Kids Network

HOME & LEISURE

8.00am The Home & Leisure Channel

LIVING

8.00am The Living Channel

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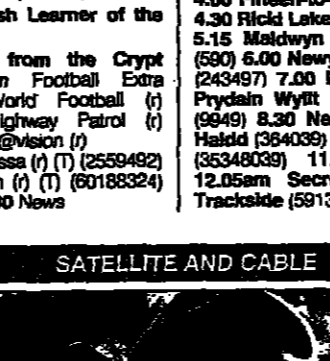
SPORTS



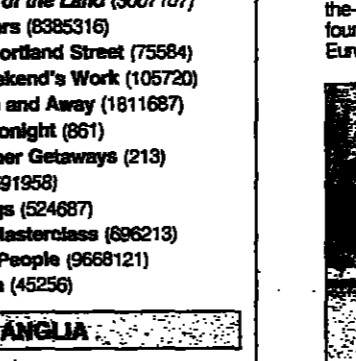
Sally Whitaker and Denise Welch confront each other (7.30pm)



Margaret Rutherford helps out in the cinema classic (3.35pm)



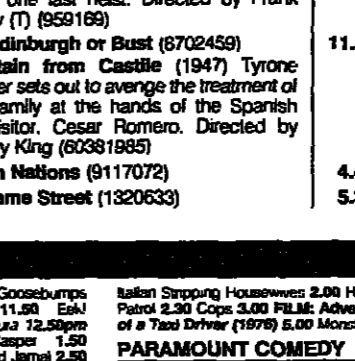
Manu Reeves plays a demobbed soldier in A Walk in the Clouds (Screen 2, 5.50pm)



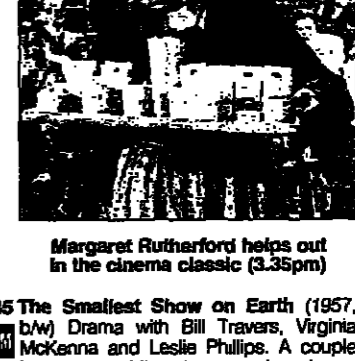
Dr Alfred Kinsey researched Americans' sexual views (8.00pm)



Margaret Rutherford helps out in the cinema classic (3.35pm)



Margaret Rutherford helps out in the cinema classic (3.35pm)



Margaret Rutherford helps out in the cinema classic (3.35pm)



PROFILE 40 How WPP came back from the brink

BUSINESS

SHARE CARE 41 Roger Bootle on turmoil in the markets

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY AUGUST 10 1998

Recession alert as London's economy outstrips Austria

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT LONDON'S economy is now larger than Austria's with the capital basking in its sixth consecutive year of strong growth...

cession in 1992 that it has already outgrown other wealthy EU nations such as Denmark and Sweden. However, the report by the Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) predicts that the London boom is finally drawing to a close...

the city will still grow faster than the rest of the country this year although the rate will dip to 3.2 per cent. Growth will slow rapidly to 1.9 per cent next year as the financial and business services that have led the six-year expansion begin to feel the impact of the slowdown in global markets...

The number of tourists visiting the city is also falling sharply because the high pound has made hotel and shop prices less attractive while high interest rates are beginning to bite into the housing market and consumer expenditure.

The measure used to technically define a recession. The rapid slowdown will force up unemployment from its current level of 228,500 to 290,000 by 2001. However, it will also help to reduce wages and price pressure in the capital.

inflation will slide from 4.1 per cent to 1.3 per cent over the same period. Douglas McWilliams, chief executive of the CEBR, said: "The slowdown follows six years when London has done spectacularly well. It would have been unrealistic to assume this boom could go on forever."

BP set for fight over Alaskan oil

BY CARL MORTSHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

BRITISH Petroleum is preparing itself for a battle with environmentalists as the US Government begins to open up vast tracts of wilderness in Alaska for oil exploration.

ton to open up federal land such as the NPRA, and the even more sensitive Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, in a bid to create jobs and tax revenues.

Fergus MacLeod of BT Alex Brown, the investment bank, said that BP was extending its pipeline system eastwards in anticipation of an eventual sale of permits to drill in the Wildlife Refuge to the east of Prudhoe Bay.



Polar bears: under threat?



Terry Smith, left, with Stephen Keating, centre, of 3i, and Chris Chivers, managing director of Killby & Gayford (Building), at Bloomberg's offices

Managers buy Killby

KILLBY & GAYFORD, the 138-year-old building contractor behind the refurbishment of Selfridges' perfume hall and the new offices of Bloomberg, the information group, has been bought out by its management for £12 million.

Twenty suitors vie for Rec

MORE than 20 groups, led by Southern Electric and Scottish Hydro, have approached Energy, the US group, about buying London Electricity, which Energy is selling as part of its giant restructuring programme.

about to ask its shareholders for £1 billion to back a bid, yesterday admitted that it was looking at the business. A spokeswoman for the Perth-based company said: "We've always said we'd be interested in a regional electricity company."

Midlands Electricity but failed to do a deal. Then in 1995 it tried to buy South Western Electricity.

links to PowerGen for almost £2 billion. PowerGen's main rival, National Power, may be on the end of a £7 billion bid from a consortium put together by John Devaney, chief executive of The Energy Group.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for 'TIMES TWO CROSSWORD'.

Car's rough ride could end in bid

THE short and inglorious stock market career of Car Group, the second hand motor dealer, may be about to come to an end with a bid from a Surrey car dealership company backed by Merrill Lynch, the US broker.

Union fears on duty-free abolition

THREE of Britain's biggest unions are urging the Government to delay the abolition of duty-free shopping because they fear that the result could be anarchy, job losses and huge costs to the taxpayer.

Hambros hits back at criticism of Rosco sale



HAMBROS BANK yesterday hit back at a parliamentary watchdog which strongly criticised the merchant bank for its role in the privatisation of British Rail's rolling stock business.

by the National Audit Office. The bank, which has been bought by Societe Generale since the privatisation, said: "The PAC has no right to be surprised that opinion formers and bankers were sceptical in 1995 about the merits of the Rosco sale."

SOLUTION TO NO 1479. ACROSS: 1 French cricket 8 Glisten 9 Solar 10 Toe 11 Helsinki 13 Not bad 14 Fumble 17 Applaud 19 Rug 21 Alone 22 Furnish 24 Side-splitting. DOWN: 1 Fighting 2 Eminent 3 Cut 4 Candle 5 Institute 6 Kulak 7 Torelli Heaviness 12 Hedgehog 15 Bernini 16 Futful 18 Proud 20 Mars 23 Rat.

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Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured, with text including 'Heat' and 'TV & RADIO'.